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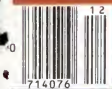
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## “Ask me.”

This One



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Incorporating Black World Magazine  
(ISSN 0012-9011)

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## INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING MGR.

Andrew (Rob) Robertson is division manager of industrial engineering at the Greenlee Tool Div. of Ex-Cell-O Corp. in Rockford, Ill. Primarily, he assures that all products and 8,720 component parts for three plants are manufactured correctly and that the most economical processes and methods of tooling are utilized. Robertson is a charter member of the Winnebago Chapter of Industrial Engineers and a member of the Industrial Management Society. He has master's degrees from Valley State College in Calif. and the Milwaukee (Wisc.) School of Engineering. He and his wife, Mattie, are parents of Sean, age 9, and Sylvia, age 1.



## SPEAKING



## FINANCIAL MANAGER

Andre R. Cita is a certified financial manager and account executive with Merrill Lynch Pierce Fenner & Smith in New York City. He advises clients (pension plans, corporations and individuals) on managing finances. Cita became the firm's first certified financial manager after completing the course requirements at the Donald T. Regan School of Advanced Financial Management. He earned full academic scholarships to the Gunnery Prep. School (through project ABC) and Duke Univ. School of Engineering, and has studied at City Univ. of New York. Cita's leisure time is spent traveling with his wife, Hildred, and participating in sports.



## COUNTY ROADS COMMISSIONER

Grace R. Hampton is the first woman chairperson in the 70-year history of the Board of Wayne County Road Commissioners in Detroit. She shares policy-forming processes of the Commission which govern the operations of two major airports, maintains 1,377 miles of county roads, 415 miles of state trunk-lines and freeways, and the operation of county parks and parkways. Ms. Hampton is also an administrative employee at the UAW, where she has worked for 25 years. She is a member of the Natl. Council of Negro Women and a life member of the NAACP. Ms. Hampton, the mother of six children, lives in Inkster, Mich.

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# OF PEOPLE



## SAVINGS AND LOAN PRESIDENT

Richard A. Thornton is president of Guaranty Savings Assoc., a \$200 million savings and loan firm, in Pittsburgh, Pa. He began his career with the company 24 years ago as a teller. Over the years, he has held several positions including accounting clerk, treasurer and senior vice president, which led him to his present position and his election to the board of directors. Thornton's organizational affiliations include the board of directors of Western Pennsylvania Savings and Loan League. He is a graduate of Duff College and the American Savings and Loan Institute. He and his wife, Yvonne, are parents of three sons, Michael, Todd and Troy.

## HEALTH LAB DIRECTOR

Dr. Samuel N. Merritt is assistant director of technical services for the N.C. State Laboratory of Public Health in Raleigh. Dr. Merritt reviews proposals for testing modifications, conducts performance evaluations and serves as a resource consultant to the laboratory's staff. He is a member of the American Society for Microbiology and the American and N.C. Public Health Associations. Dr. Merritt is a graduate of Virginia State College and Michigan State Univ. He received his masters and doctor of public health degrees from the Univ. of Michigan. He and his wife, Carolyn, are parents of Gina, 8 and Carla, 3.



## UNIVERSITY SPORTS PUBLICIST

James E. Greenidge is director of sports information at Harvard Univ. in Cambridge, Mass. He plans and implements programs designed to publicize the activities of Harvard's 39 intercollegiate athletic teams. Additionally, he coordinates news releases, game programs and other media information. Greenidge was formerly sports information director and assistant baseball coach at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, N.Y. and was the first Black reporter at the Boston Record American newspaper and the Albany Knickerbocker News-Schenectady Union Star. Greenidge, who is single, is a graduate of Northeastern Univ. in Boston.



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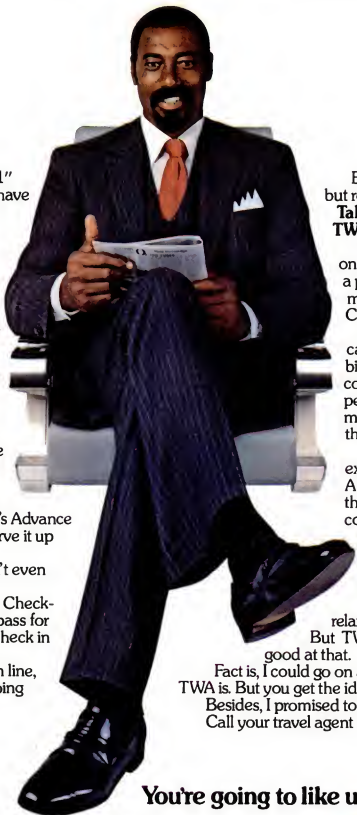
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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### SMOKEY AND CLAUDETTE

Thanks for the wonderful cover story on Smokey and Claudette Robinson (Oct. 1982). We Black families need to stick together, now more than ever. Claudette offered a very simple solution to a successful marriage. God will make life and love work if only we have faith and work at helping ourselves.

To the Robinsons, may God continue to bless you and your family.

MRS. YVONNE YATES

Euclid, Ohio

Jesus Saves — marriages, too! I was most touched by Claudette Robinson's "essential component of a fulfilling marriage." As a Christian, I can truly confess that faith in God is the single most important ingredient in maintaining a happy and harmonious marriage and life in general. As I look upon the lives of—and listen to—some of my unbelieving friends, it is so obvious that not having the Good Lord in their lives is the major source of their many problems. I have seen salvation transform so many joyless marriages and lives into the most beautiful affairs.

More people should try it.

JULIANNE P. JONES

Atlanta, Ga.

Thank you for such marvelous coverage of a marvelous couple. I'm eager to say I'm a fan of both Claudette and Smokey Robinson. I think they are a very inspiring couple. They've dealt with the hard, hard times, but with the faith in God and their hanging tough, they managed to establish a strong union.

PEGGIE A. COLLINS

Miami, Fla.

I just finished reading your article on Smokey Robinson and his wife, Claudette. I would like to congratulate them on their 22 years of marriage. Claudette is doing the right thing by putting her trust in God. To have a very solid marriage, both partners have to be willing to give 100 percent to this union. Aside from love, which is the cornerstone of the husband-wife relationship, trust and respect play a very important part in a very happy successful marriage.

I enjoy reading your magazine.

MS. CECIL PARKER

Melfa, Va.

I never saw a reason to take the time and write you about anything until the article on Smokey and Claudette appeared. I have known and always loved Smokey as a singer but I never had read an article this complete about his wife and children. This article made me love him for the things he represents to me. He did not get carried away with his beauty, voice and wealth, and go through lots of women, Black and White, as



he could have. He remained with one lady and the two of them had two children together. They married very young and, I am sure, with God's help they will grow very old together. That, to me, is very beautiful. I know it couldn't have been easy, but the two of them made it.

Smokey. I love you today as I did yesterday and I hold you very dear for showing me and others that teen-age marriages can work.

MARTHA J. ROBERTSON

Gary, Ind.

Your article on Smokey and Claudette Robinson was great. It is good to see that they haven't let the corrupt, immoral ways of the world break up their marriage. I hope EBONY decides to do more stories like the one on the Robinsons.

C. DENIECE JONES

Houston, Texas

## PAUL LAURENCE DUNBAR

Thank you for the tribute paid to Paul Laurence Dunbar (Oct. 1982). It was quite refreshing to see reprinted the poems "Life," "Sympathy," and "We Wear The Mask." These and other poems were often part of my lessons as we endeavored to inculcate the ideas, ideals and values of his songs.

Would that many might be motivated by this article to read *The Complete Poems* and other works of this gifted and inspired man.

LOUIS J. WALKER

Former Faculty Member

Paul Laurence Dunbar Jr. High School

Bronx, New York

## BATTLING THE BULGE

I was really impressed with the way Sara Horton shed 78 pounds in less than a year ("She Fought Battle of the Bulge—And Won," Oct. 1982). Moreso, I was elated to discover that she has maintained her astounding weight loss for a period exceeding five years. Having gone on various diets myself in the past several years, I have lost a tremendous amount of weight, only to regain it, plus more. This is widely known as the "yo-yo" syndrome. However, now that I have read about Ms. Horton's success, I am sure that I, too, can maintain my weight loss. She has deeply inspired me to once again fight my own personal "battle of the bulge." But this time, I am not only going to win the battle, I am going to win the war!

Many thanks, EBONY, for allowing all of our obese Black Americans to realize that with faith and will power, they too can win the war.

CHARLESETTA LEWIS

Houston, Texas

Congratulations, Mrs. Henderson-Brown! ("California Woman Sheds 140 Pounds," Sept. 1982). It's good to know that there are still women who take pride in their appearance. I started my program a month ago and I'm doing great. I don't have as much to lose as you did, but if you can lose 140 pounds, I can lose 30. Keep up the good work.

E. JOHNSON

Washington, D.C.

A million and one cheers for Karen Henderson-Brown. Last year I was weighing 110 lbs; now I'm weighing 146 lbs. Her article was the

**Continued on Page 20**



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Alexandria (Landmark); Fairfax (Fair Oaks); Manassas (Arlington, Parkington)

# LETTERS Continued

best inspiration I or anyone needed to get down to the desired size. While I was reading the article I couldn't even finish it. I was too hyper. All I could think of was to start going back to the spa.

Karen Henderson-Brown, you're the greatest. Keep on shedding those pounds. Best of luck.

MS. LAVERNE BROWN

Brooklyn, New York

## THE EBONY ADVISOR

Just a few words of appreciation for your answer on Muslim and Christian relationships ("The EBONY Advisor," Oct. 1982). I am a Muslim and I enjoyed your reply because there are many who don't understand the religion of Islam. Your suggestion to T.L.M. of Los Angeles, Calif., was a just one.

M. A. ABDUL-RAHIM

Richmond, Va.

I found a letter in "The EBONY Advisor" column (Oct. 1982) very disturbing. The Christian lady pondering her relationship with a Muslim boyfriend was advised to see a Muslim priest (imam) for counseling prior to marriage. This is bad advice because Christianity has clear guidelines on the subject and she should seek counsel from a Christian minister. The Apostle Paul tells us that Christians should not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. It is possible for the lady in question to bring her young man back to Christ, but her own faith will be in jeopardy if she marries him while he is still a Muslim.

GRANT HARRISON

Charlotte, N.C.

I am writing this in regard to the letter in "The EBONY Advisor" from E. C. of Atlanta, Ga. (Oct. 1982). First of all, it is a fact that skin color is determined by four to six pairs of genes a piece from each parent. Some skin color genes code for more pigment than others.

Second, virtually all Black Americans are descendants of mixtures of other races due to slavery. Therefore, the skin color genes in Black Americans can possibly contain pigment ranging from white to black. It is entirely possible for two dark-skinned parents to produce a light-skinned child and vice-versa, just as it is possible for two tall parents to produce a short child and vice-versa.

By chance, the skin color genes that code for less pigment connected from each parent to produce a lighter-skinned child in E. C.'s case.

On a personal note, my grandparents were both light-skinned and produced seventeen children. By the chance combination of genes I have an uncle who is very dark-skinned, an aunt with blond hair and very light skin, and all colors and hair textures in between.

I would urge E. C. to go to the library and get a book on genetics where a simple genetic chart can show how different skin colors can be the product of parents of the same color by the diverse possibilities of gene combinations.

JAN JONES

Milwaukee, Wis.

## RE-MARRYING EACH OTHER

I was pleased and enlightened when I read "Couples Who Re-marry — Each Other." As I finished reading the article, I thought it so pleasant for a change to find that no matter what problems may separate people, if they really loved each other they would somehow find a way back to one another. While the divorce rate is declining, either due to the expense of legal fees or because there is just no desire to "cut the cord completely," so to speak, people are still thinking of their wives or husbands as worth the effort, thereby proving that, if love is true, the flame never dies.

Thank you for the article. I am sure it gave great hope to couples who are estranged.

DORRELL E. MAINER

Brooklyn, N.Y.

## RESPECT FOR LARRY HOLMES

Larry Holmes, you are respected, loved and admired more than you can imagine. You are a quiet person, Larry, and the world quietly respects you. Is all the hoopla really necessary? Certainly not for a man such as you who is in shape mentally as well as physically. As for fighting Jerry Cooney again, he really doesn't deserve it. He is a kid who has a lot of growing up to do and you shouldn't let it be at your expense, no matter what the probable outcome may be.

Keep intact the respect the world has for your inner beauty, Larry!

EUGENIA SMITH

Los Angeles, Calif.

## SCHOMBURG CENTER

I am happy that you are telling the world that Harlem is more than the Cotton Club and the Apollo Theater ("Schomburg Center," Sept. 1982). It was my privilege to meet Mr. Schomburg when he called at the office of the New York News when I was cutting my "newspaper" teeth.

Similarly, over a span of years I was fortunate to get to know Jean Hutson and Ernest Kaiser. So when the name Schomburg is mentioned, I think of these very capable and dedicated people.

I know personally of Jean Hutson's long fight, first to keep the collection in Harlem when the powers that control the library wanted to move the collection down town to the main building; second, I know Jean's more difficult struggle to obtain suitable quarters for this "gold mine" as you so aptly call it.

Thanks to her tenacity and single mindedness, — Schomburg has this fine modern building equipped to preserve the rare materials found nowhere else and ample room for future expansion. To my thinking, Jean Hutson deserves consideration for the Spingarn Medal for meritorious service. No matter who has the honor of being curator, the present Schomburg owes its place to her indefatigable efforts. And no one is more familiar with the Schomburg's treasures than Ernest Kaiser.

To say more would be a superfluous gilding of the lily. EBONY is entitled to a vote of thanks for joining others who recognize the Schomburg Center. I know its value, having found its services invaluable many times. It is one institution



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## LETTERS Continued

that will endure when Harlem's glamor has faded.

ALVIN E. WHITE

Decatur, Ga.

### 'HANDICAPISM'?

For several years, I have subscribed to EBONY and have found it consistently interesting and often provocative. However, in the Sept. 1982 issue there is a statement that concerns me enough to write with a gentle comment.

For some 30 years I have been concerned with the relationship of words or terms and attitudes—racism, sexism and now handicapism! The notion I am currently determined to confront is the incorrect and essentially negative view conveyed by the seemingly inoffensive terminology "confined to a wheelchair" (underlining mine).

On p. 70 there is a beautiful picture of Roy and Roxie Campanella and Roy Jr. with no mention made of the fact that Roy has depended on a wheelchair to get around for many years now. However, on p. 78 there is a picture of Satchel Paige with the caption "...and was confined to a wheelchair." The contradiction inherent in the two pictures and what is said seems immediately apparent to me.

Satchel Paige certainly required a wheelchair to get around at the time of his death. However, to refer to him as confined is to miss the point that he would then have been much more confined without it! Wheelchairs are merely vehicles or assistive devices, and to refer to their users as confined does such persons a real disservice in my view.

DEWEY C. FORCE, JR. PH. D.  
Professor  
College of Education  
University of Minnesota  
Minneapolis, Minn.

### THE FBI

I have read the excellent article concerning Special Agent Gibson which appeared in the August issue of EBONY and extend warmest thanks for the effective portrayal of the many varied responsibilities of an FBI Special Agent. The article has already generated a number of telephone calls and letters from your readers interested in pursuing an FBI career, and I deeply appreciate your support.

WILLIAM H. WEBSTER  
Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

### EBONY BOOKSHELF

Thank you for the timely, well-organized and informative special issue, "The Black Woman of the '80s." Thank you for including my latest publication in your "EBONY Book Shelf" (Aug. 1982). Please note, however, that the publisher of my two-volume set, *Contributions Of Black Women To America*, is not the Urban League but is Kenday Press, Inc.

DR. MARIANNA W. DAVIS  
Editor,  
*Contributions Of Black Women To America*  
Columbia, S.C.

Letters intended for this column should be addressed to: **Letters To The Editor, EBONY Magazine, 820 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60605.** To be considered for publication, letters must bear the name and address of the sender and—because of space limitation—should not be unduly long.

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Abbreviations: AP—Associated Press, BS—Black Stars, UP—United Press International, WW—Wide World.

Insert card: U.S. Army Recruitment between pages 28 and 27

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This quotation from Proverbs introduces **Brothers: Black Soldiers In The Nam** (Presidio, \$14.95) by Stanley Goff and Robert Sanders with Clark Smith.

"Brothers," writes Professor Clark Smith of the University of California in the introduction, "fought the war in Vietnam—and out in the field among the infantry grunts at least half of them were black. Not since the Civil War, when inductees with money were allowed to buy their exemptions from the national draft, has the burden of military service so directly fallen on a single group of Americans.... (T)he tendency to channel blacks into the infantry, to be sent to Vietnam, to serve overlong in combat units, suggests that the war was "a white man's war, a black man's fight."

**Brothers** is an oral history of a dirty war from the personal vantage point of two of the thousands of brothers who were forced to fight it—Stanley Goff and Robert Sanders, two nineteen-year-olds who were drafted from Oakland in 1967, one year after Martin Luther King Jr. and other civil rights leaders came out in opposition to the conflict. Goff and Sanders survived the struggle and their personal stories reflect the tragic ironies of Vietnam and the ambiguities of unanchored heroic actions.

**Let the Trumpet Sound** (Harper, \$19.95), a biography of Mar-

tin Luther King Jr., by Stephen B. Oates.

**This Gilded African** (Quartet, \$12.95), a biography of Toussaint L'Ouverture, by Wenda Parkinson.

**Aké: The Years of Childhood** (Random House, \$14.95), an autobiography by Wole Soyinka, the Nigerian dramatist and poet.

**Black Americans and the Evangelization of Africa** (University of Wisconsin, \$27.50), a study of Black missionaries and the Black American Mission movement, by Walter L. Williams.

**Black Apostles at Home and Abroad** (Hall, \$40.00), a study of Afro-Americans and the Christian mission from the Revolution to Reconstruction, by Wills Newman.

**Early Black Biographies** (Garland, \$42.00), a resource guide, by Betty Kaplan Gubert.

**A Time of Terror** (T/D Publications, \$6.95), a true story of a Northern Black who survived an attempted lynching, by James Cameron.

**The Roots of the Blues: An African Search** (Putnam, \$5.95), the story of a quest for the West African origins of African-American music, by Samuel Charters.

**Roots of Black Music** (Prentice-Hall, \$7.95), a study of the vocal, instrumental and dance heritage of Africa and Black America, by Ashenafi Kebede.

**Shadow and Substance: Afro-American Experience in Contemporary Children's Fiction** (National Council of Teachers of English, \$6.00), an analysis of 150 works of fiction published since 1965 for children preschool through eighth grade, by Rudine Sims.

**Black Communication** (University Press of America, \$6.75 paper), a study of the rhetorical strategies of Black Americans, by Robert W. Mullen.

**I'm Gonna Make You Love Me** (Dell, \$2.25), a biography of Diana Ross for young readers, by James Haskins.

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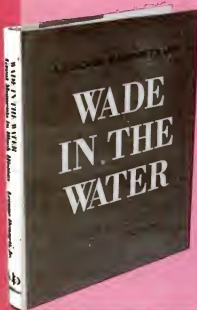
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# BACKSTAGE



AT Johnson Publishing Co. we believe in holding on to the best of the old while permitting fresh new ideas to grow. For example, our "Fashion Fair" editorial feature has given more than a generation of Black women very practical tips for dressing well and looking great while also offering the most interesting news and photos from the world of *haute couture*. The "fresh new idea" that grew out of "Fashion Fair" 25 years ago was EBONY Fashion Fair, the traveling fashion show that has become so popular that it now travels from coast to coast and in the Caribbean, raising funds for charities.

Then, 10 years ago, following the JPC tradition, another fresh new idea grew out of the fashion show. The show's models had always had difficulty finding properly formulated makeup in just-right shades to complement Black women's various complexions. So JPC President John H. Johnson called in experts and, after months of experimentation, Fashion Fair Cosmetics was developed. The fashion show models pronounced it "perfect," and soon it was available in the most prestigious department stores throughout the U.S.

In October, still another fresh new idea was realized when Fashion Fair Cosmetics launched its complete line in leading stores in London and Birmingham, England. Stores such as Selfridges, Dickens & Jones, Boots, Underwoods and Rackham's of Birmingham now offer Fashion Fair Cosmetics to Britain's people of color. To

kick off the British sales campaign, Mr. Johnson and FFC Vice President/General Manager J. Lance Clarke invited representatives of 10 leading British newspapers and magazines—Black and White—to visit EBONY and Fashion Fair Cosmetics headquarters in Chicago. The journalists were flown from London to New York on the supersonic Concorde, treated to a performance of the hit Broadway musical, *Dreamgirls*, and then flown to Chicago where they toured our offices and were shown the Fashion Fair Cosmetics line that went on sale in England on October 11. After a round of partying and sightseeing, they returned to New York for their Concorde flight home.

As it has done in the U.S., Fashion Fair Cosmetics will provide employment in British stores for many Black women and men trained as cosmetics demonstrators and salespersons.

Fashion Fair Cosmetics products—also sold in Canada, the West Indies, and West Africa, and through U.S. military post exchanges in England, Spain, Germany, Italy, Greece, Iceland and Belgium—will debut in France in March, and plans are underway for expansion worldwide.

Meanwhile, the fresh new ideas of EBONY staffers will be seen in our January issue articles including an in-depth look at the myths and the truths about fasting, special articles on beauty, new hairstyles (see photos above) and health, and a profile of Blacks in Dallas, Texas, the seventh largest city in the U.S.

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# HARTFORD



Called "The Gateway of New England," Hartford, Conn., is best known as the insurance capital of the world. A city that takes great pride in its rich history, Hartford will celebrate the 350th anniversary of its settling in 1983.

## Blacks gain political clout in Connecticut's historic capital

By MARILYN MARSHALL

If you were to ask a person who never set foot in Hartford, Conn., what he or she knew about the city, the No. 1 response would probably be that it's the insurance capital of the world. Tied for second place would be the fact that it's the capital city of Connecticut and the midway point between New York and Boston.

Not so widely known is the fact that more than one-third of Hartford's population is Black, or that the city's mayor, deputy mayor, city manager and assistant city manager are Black. Like many New England cities, it is not generally thought of as a place which has a number of Blacks in positions of influence.

Since World War I, however, Blacks have steadily migrated to Hartford (prior to that time, there was a small Black population comprised of freed slaves and their children). In the beginning, most Blacks were drawn to Hartford's then-thriving tobacco and fruit fields, and later to its war industries such as firearms and tires. Today,



Two top men in Hartford's city government are Mayor Thirman L. Milner (above, l.) and City Manager Woodrow Wilson Gaitor. Mayor Milner says one of the biggest hurdles he has to cross "is being accepted as mayor, not just a Black mayor." Two of Hartford's most dynamic young leaders are City Councilman Francisco Borges (left, l.) and Deputy Mayor Rudolph Arnold. Borges, 30, is serving his first term on the council, while Arnold, 34, is serving his second term. Both men are attorneys.





**Blacks who hold important posts in Hartford** include (counterclockwise from top left): State Sen. Wilber Smith and State Reps. Carrie Saxon Perry and Abe Giles; Fire Chief John Stewart Jr. and Fire Marshal Carl Booker; school board member Maxine Graham and her husband, Superior Court Judge William Graham; State Public Utilities Control Authority Commissioner Dr. Edythe Gaines, and State Treasurer Henry Parker, who is shown greeting Connecticut Gov. William O'Neill at a recent fund-raiser.



## HARTFORD *Continued*

Blacks make up 34 percent of the city's population of 136,392, although Black city officials say the figure is more like 40 percent. Approximately one-fifth of Black Hartfordites are of West Indian descent, and the Greater Hartford area (which includes Hartford and 32 surrounding towns) has the largest West Indian population in the U.S. outside of New York City.

The second most populous city in Connecticut (Bridgeport is first), Hartford is an 18-square mile area on the west bank of the Connecticut River. It's often described as "not too big yet not too small," "a nice place to raise children" and "a place where you can really get to know your neighbors." A city that's rich in history and a major financial-industrial center, Hartford takes pride in its ability to blend the old with the new.

First settled in 1633 by a group of Dutch traders, it was founded in 1636 and incorporated in 1784. It became an important trading center on the Connecticut River, and its insurance industry was an outgrowth of the trade activity. About 40 insurance companies

are headquartered in Hartford, including Aetna Life and Casualty, Travelers Insurance Co., and the Hartford Insurance Group. Hartford is also the home of the mammoth United Technologies, whose subsidiaries include Pratt and Whitney Aircraft and Otis Elevators. The Greater Hartford area is a leading industrial market, and contains 40 percent of Connecticut's industrial firms.

Hartford's landmarks include the Wadsworth Athenaeum, which is the oldest public art museum in the country, the state capitol building and the homes of Mark Twain and Harriet Beecher Stowe. In the area of culture, there is a symphony orchestra, ballet and opera company. The city has one professional sports organization, the Hartford Whalers hockey team. The Boston Celtics play several of their home games in the Hartford Civic Center Coliseum, and the Sammy Davis Jr./Greater Hartford Open is played annually at the Wethersfield Country Club.

As far as Blacks are concerned, the consensus is that because of its insurance industries, Hartford can be a land of opportunity for those with professional and technical skills, but less than desirable for low- or unskilled Blacks. A decline in the agricultural market and a lack of job training programs have helped contribute to a 35 percent unemployment rate for minorities (Hartford has a growing Hispanic population) in the 16 to 35 age group. This compares with a 9 percent unemployment rate for the city.

Hartford also has a severe housing shortage, and there's less than a one percent vacancy rate in low- to moderate-income housing. The problem is particularly acute in Hartford's predominantly Black North End, which Otis Smith, president of the Connecticut Allied Business Legal Rights Assn., calls "the largest parking lot in New England, because they tear the buildings down but don't put them back up." In addition, the North End is dotted with substandard and abandoned buildings.

It is hoped that the situation will improve for Hartford's disadvantaged Blacks now that the city government has a new look to it. In November, 1981, 49-year-old Thirman Milner became the city's first Black mayor, as well as the first Black ever elected mayor in New England. A former state representative, Milner is a third generation Hartfordite. Until recently, he was also one of the city's most eligible





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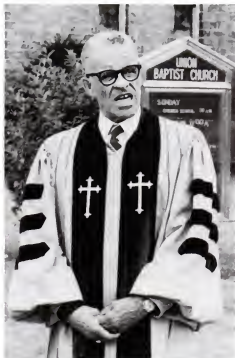
## HARTFORD *Continued*

Newspaper editor John Robert Allen (below) is the man behind *Northeast Agents*, one of Hartford's two Black newspapers. Emerson Blatche is a well-known entrepreneur in the Greater Hartford area, and is shown at bottom with his wife Willie in the supermarket he owns. The Rev. A. Roger Williams (below, right) is pastor of Union Baptist Church, the oldest Black Baptist church in the city. A top Black insurance executive is Jerome Bartow (bottom right), vice president and director of administration at the Hartford Insurance Group.



bachelors; divorced, he plans to remarry in May. Though Hartford has a weak-mayor/strong council-manager form of government, Blacks in the city like to believe that Milner is more than just a figurehead. They say that as the most visible politician in the city, he has a large forum in which to address important issues.

Milner's election has also served to reemphasize to Blacks the power of the vote. In the 1981 Democratic primary (Hartford is a heavily Democratic city), Milner lost to incumbent mayor George Athanson by 94 votes. Milner in turn contested the election, saying that voting irregularities existed, especially with absentee ballots. A second primary was then held, which Milner won by more than 2,000 votes. He says



the Black community, whose voter turnout was more than 50 percent in the second primary, largely contributed to the win. "My whole argument to Blacks throughout the country is that if you voted to your full potential, you would have more representation in all levels of government," Mayor Milner says.

Joining Milner in City Hall are City Manager Woodrow Wilson Gaitor, who assumed the post two and a half years ago; Asst. City Manager Henry Langle; Deputy Mayor Rudolph Arnold, who as leader of the nine-member, Democrat-controlled city council is considered a powerful force in city government, and Francisco Borges, the remaining Black council member. Black city department heads include John Stewart Jr., fire chief; Carl Booker, fire marshal; Pat Williams, planning director; Arthur Teal, social services director, and John Carter, licenses and inspection director.

The problems which affect Blacks in Hartford are the same as those in many other cities, but Hartfordites do feel they have an advantage: their city is large enough to have the problems but small enough to solve them. To help alleviate the housing shortage, the city has a goal of building 1,000 new units a year over the next ten years. The city also plans to issue \$10 million worth of tax exempt bonds to help finance a housing rehabilitation program. Deputy Mayor Arnold is especially pleased with the program because some of the city's insurance companies—which in the past have been criticized for not giving Blacks their fair share of the industry—have agreed to underwrite the issuance of the bonds.

In addition, the city hopes to build private and public partnerships to set up more job training programs, and is taking steps to strictly enforce its affirmative action plan.

If such changes do occur, an even greater number of Blacks will be able to take advantage of the opportunities that Hartfordites such as Councilman Borges say exist. "There is a tremendous amount of potential here for Blacks," he says. "The closest analogy I can make is that it's like a rocket at its ignition stage that hasn't really taken off. But much of what is needed to help it take off is already in place, such as a viable economic future and stable business enterprises."

Now that Blacks in Hartford have some say-so in how their city is run, the chances of that "rocket" taking off soon are much greater.

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THE PRINCE OF WALES 1921-1936





Dr. Therman Evans is president of Operation PUSH in Hartford and corporate medical director at Connecticut General Life Insurance Co. Above, he examines an X-ray with Dr. J. Donna Baytop, Connecticut General's assistant director.



Among high-ranking Blacks in Hartford's corporate world is Martin Lewis (above), vice president, secretary and deputy general counsel of United Technologies. He sees Hartford as a desirable place for Blacks to live, especially since there's a "sympathetic administration in City Hall."



A prominent figure in Hartford's Black community is James G. Harris, executive director of the Community Renewal Team of Greater Hartford. CRT is one of the largest anti-poverty agencies in New England, and it sponsors programs ranging from day care (above) to rodent control.



Successful businessman James Monroe owns a fuel company and supermarket in Hartford. A strong supporter of Mayor Milner, Monroe is active in the Greater Hartford Black Democratic Club. There are about 360 Black-owned businesses in Hartford.



The cultural scene in Hartford is enhanced by the CRT Craftery art gallery, which is run by Jonathan Bruce (left). Located in a Black-Hispanic area of town, it is one of the few showcases for minority artists in Connecticut. "Our purpose is not to push paintings, but to expose our community to our art forms," says Bruce.

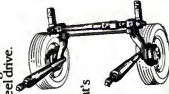


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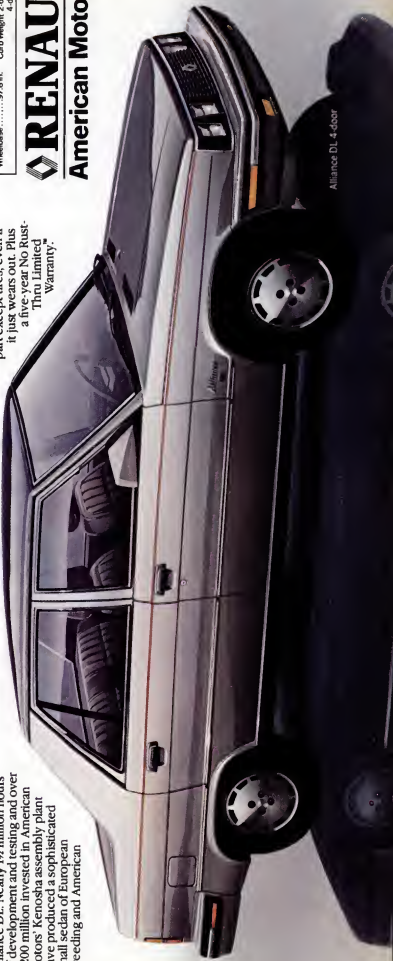
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# GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN:



*The Thankful Poor, Henry Ossawa Tanner, 1894. This is perhaps the first major reproduction in color of this classic work by Tanner. From the private collection of William H. Cosby Jr.*

**T**HE “black and unknown bards” of slavery appropriated the event and transformed it.

For them and for millions of their descendants, Christmas was a time of joy and celebration expressed in a communal spirit of giving and relatedness. Since that time, the Black response to Christmas has gone through a number of transformations, including modern-day Kwanza celebrations. But whatever the form, the spirit has remained constant. There is a sense of identification with the mother and the child, born in a manger in a place where there was no room in the inn. There is also a challenge and a

reinterpretation of the event in terms of the question, Can anything good come out of Nazareth or out of the Harlems or the South Sides of the world? Always, everywhere, as the poems and Spirituals on the following pages indicate, there is a bold and joyous affirmation based on the belief that the answer is implicit in the question and the event.

**Born in a manger, Yes, Lord!  
Born in a manger, Yes, my Lord;  
Born in a manger, Yes, Lord!  
The people keep-a comin', an'  
The train done gone.**

# Christmas and the Black Spirit

## Speakin' O' Christmas

Breezes blowin' middlin' brisk,  
Snow-flakes thro' the air a-whisk,  
Fallin' kind o' soft an' light,  
Not enough to make things white,  
But jest sorter siftin' down  
So's to cover up the brown  
Of the dark world's rugged ways  
'N' make things look like holidays.  
Not smoothed over, but jest specked,  
Sorter strainin' fur effect,  
An' not quite a-gittin' through  
What it started in to do.  
Mercy sakes! it does seem queer  
Christmas day is 'most nigh here.  
Somehow it don't seem to me  
Christmas like it used to be,—  
Christmas with its ice an' snow,  
Christmas of the long ago.  
You could feel its stir an' hum  
Weeks an' weeks before it come;  
Somethin' in the atmosphere  
Told you when the day was near,  
Didn't need no almanacs;  
That was one o' Nature's fac's.  
Every cottage decked out gay—  
Cedar wreaths an' holly spray—  
An' the stores, how they were drest,  
Tinsel tell you couldn't rest;  
Every winder fixed up pat,  
Candy canes, an' things like that,  
Noah's arks, an' guns, an' dolls,  
An' all kinds o' fol-de-rols.  
Then with frosty bells a-chime,  
Slidin' down the hills o' time,  
Right amidst the fun an' din  
Christmas come a-bustlin' in,  
Raised his cheery voice to call  
Out a welcome to us all;  
Hale and hearty, strong an' bluff,  
That was Christmas, sure enough.  
Snow knee-deep an' coastin' fine,  
Frozen mill-ponds all ashine,

Seemin' jest to lay in wait,  
Beggin' you to come an' skate.  
An' you'd git your gal an' go  
Stumpin' cheerily thro' the snow,  
Feelin' pleased an' skeert an' warm  
'Cause she had a-holt yore arm.  
Why, when Christmas come in, we  
Spent the whole glad day in glee,  
Havin' fun an' feastin' high



Black Madonna, Sandra Peck, Johnson Publishing Company Collection

An' some courtin' on the sly.  
 Bustin' in some neighbor's door  
 An' then suddenly, before  
 He could give his voice a lift,  
 Yellin' at him, "Christmas gift."  
 Now sich things are never heard,  
 "Merry Christmas" is the word.  
 But it's only change o' name,  
 An' means givin' jest the same.  
 There's too many new-styled ways  
 Now about the holidays.  
 I'd jest like once more to see  
 Christmas like it used to be!

Paul Laurence Dunbar\*



The Three Wise Men, Howard Mueller, private collection

## Carol of the Brown King

Of the three Wise Men  
 Who came to the King,  
 One was a brown man,  
 So they sing.

Of the three Wise Men  
 Who followed the Star,  
 One was a brown king  
 From afar.

\*Copyright, Harold Ober Associates, Inc.

They brought fine gifts  
 Of spices and gold  
 In jeweled boxes  
 Of beauty untold.

Unto His humble  
 Manger they came  
 And bowed their heads  
 In Jesus' name.

Three Wise Men,  
 One dark like me—  
 Part of His  
 Nativity.

Langston Hughes\*\*

## Go Tell It on the Mountain

Go tell it on the mountain,  
 Over the hills and everywhere;  
 Go tell it on the mountain,  
 That Jesus Christ is born.

Spiritual

## What You Gonna Name That Pretty Little Baby?

Oh, Mary, what you gonna name  
 That pretty little baby?  
 Glory, glory, glory  
 To the new born King!  
 Some will call Him one thing,  
 But I think I'll call Him Jesus.  
 Glory, glory, glory  
 To the new born King!  
 Some will call Him one thing,  
 But I think I'll say Emanuel.  
 Glory, glory, glory  
 To the new born King!

Spiritual



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Introducing:

# GERREN KEITH

Dynamic director oversees all phases of 'Diff'rent Strokes'



**W**HEN one thinks about NBC-TV's hit comedy *Diff'rent Strokes*, visions of chubby-cheeked Gary Coleman going through a witty dialogue with a series of facial contortions probably come to mind.

The responsibility of ensuring that the lines spoken by Gary and the rest of the cast come across with maximum humor and smooth delivery rests on the shoulders of Gerren Keith. The 41-year-old Kansas City, Mo., native has directed the show for almost four years. Keith, a slim, mustachioed bachelor, supervises every aspect of the show. He meets with producers and writers to help determine what works and doesn't work and what is and isn't funny. Then he oversees the staging of the show, supervising every line that is spoken and every move the actors make. He also makes decisions about costumes and makeup.

One of the easiest aspects of the job, he says, is working with the young actors (Gary, Todd Bridges and Dana Plato). "The kids have been at it a while and have a feel for how their characters would say certain lines," he says. "My main function with them is keeping them close to reality, showing them how a real person would say certain things."

For Keith, it was a case of deciding on a career early in life and practically



Gerren Keith directs breakfast scene (top left) with *Diff'rent Strokes* stars (l. to r.) Todd Bridges, Gary Coleman and Conrad Bain. At left, Keith chairs script conference with NBC executives and Tandem Productions producers, then joins technical director John Westbrook in control booth.

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**Horsing around** in Gary's dressing room, Keith discovers his script isn't all that carries of a lot of punch. Director says he especially enjoys working with Gary and the other young stars.



**Keith coaches Gary** for comedy routine prior to shooting. Below, in front of his Los Angeles home, Keith prepares to take a drive in his sporty Volvo.



## GERREN KEITH *Continued*

wearing blinders until he reached a certain point. "I always wanted to be an actor and director," he says. He attended Kansas University for two years and received a degree from the Pasadena (Calif.) Playhouse in 1962 with emphasis on television production.

"I felt I was a better director than actor," he points out. "It felt better to take on a project, be involved in all elements of the show and tie all those elements together. Besides, I saw that opportunities would be better there. If I looked like Billy Dee Williams or Sidney Poitier I probably would have pursued acting."

Following graduation, Keith worked as a page and a clerk in a production office at NBC. From there it was a steady rise toward the production area.

He was a stage manager at NBC when he was given an opportunity to direct a few episodes of the short-lived series, *Grady*, which featured Whitman Mayo. After that, he directed *Good Times* for three years. "When I first became a director, I don't think I had 10 hours of sleep in two weeks," he recalls. "I had a solution to every possibility that might not work. I went in there, ready." He knows he is fortunate to have come along at a time when there was some pressure to give minorities broader opportunities in the entertainment field.

His is a six-days-a-week job, most of which is spent getting everything

ready for the weekly tapings which take place each Friday during the 26-week season. When not involved in the technical aspects of the show or working with actors, Keith busies himself making plans and changes. On Saturdays, he unshackles himself from thoughts of scripts and set designs and indulges in his favorite pastime—bass fishing. Keith is a tournament fisherman. In addition, he enjoys photography and jazz music.

The religious fervor with which he approaches his job was largely responsible for the end of his brief marriage in the early 1960s. His wife, he explains, wanted a husband who worked from nine to five. But for him there were plans, dreams and goals that went far beyond the conventional work day.

The industry Keith has chosen is extremely competitive and full of uncertainties, but for him, hard work, talent and dedication have paid off handsomely. He has directed two top-rated series in the last seven years and he is one of only a handful of Black directors out of hundreds in the business.

Because the vestiges of racism have not been erased from the entertainment industry, Keith said "I'm not allowed to think I'm a director. I'm a Black director."

Still, for him there is no bigger thrill than seeing the cast move from a shaky, tentative state when given new scripts to a polished, finished product. "It's the greatest thrill I can imagine," he says. "It's a real high."




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Linda Twine is rhythmic while conducting Lena Horne's 15-man band. Below, Miss Twine arrives at San Francisco's Golden Gate Theatre for a performance.



# Lena's CONDUCTOR



With a brilliant Horne bringing out her skills, maestro Linda Twine shares some of the limelight

BY RUTHE STEIN

**L**INDA Twine doesn't play second fiddle to Lena Horne. She conducts the entire orchestra for *Lena Horne: The Lady and Her Music*, the razzle-dazzle musical autobiography that has audiences across the country leaping to their feet. The show undeniably belongs to Miss Horne, who sings *Stormy Weather* and 24 other songs associated with her long career starting at the Cotton Club in Harlem in the early '30s. But her young conductor has a share of the limelight, if for no other reason than the novelty of seeing a Black woman directing a 15-man orchestra.

But there are lots of other reasons. From the opening moment when Miss Twine appears on stage in a black velvet tunic and satin pants to strike up the overture, she is so into the music that she seems almost to be dancing. She moves effortlessly from cueing the band to playing the acoustic grand piano and electric piano, never missing a beat. Critics have called her conducting "scrupulous," "superb" and "magnificent." Lena Horne, who personally selected Miss Twine for the job, puts it another way. "I think Linda is hot. We get along right good. She loves musicians a lot more than I do. She has more patience with them."

This is her big break in show business, but Miss Twine almost let it get away. Originally hired as assistant conductor, she made an impression on Miss Horne by bringing a



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## ***"My dad knew a great engineer when he saw one."***



"I come from a large family. So when I was growing up, there was never a lot of everything to go around."

"What I did have, though, was someone who taught me that no dream is too big to come true. That person was my father."

"Dad always told me that if I really worked hard, I could be successful at whatever I did. 'Give it your best,' he'd say. 'Have confidence. Stick to your ideas, and see them right through to the end.'"

"Well, I've followed that advice all of my life. And I believe that's one reason why today, I'm an electronics engineer for General Electric."

"Part of my job is finding new ways to make integrated circuits do large, complex tasks. I can't tell you how exciting it is to see my ideas through; to watch them evolve from pieces of paper to designs that really work."

"I'll be the first to say that engineering is a great field, and a career that minority children should consider. If your kids are interested in why things work — if they're intuitive — that's a start. But, it takes work, studying, and lots of encouragement to make that happen."

"To me, encouragement and confidence are the keys. When I think about it, I realize that my dad knew that, too. You know, he was a chauffeur who never went to high school. And here I am, just one generation later — his son, the engineer."

— Jim Shepard



**WE BRING GOOD THINGS TO LIFE**

## LENA'S CONDUCTOR *Continued*

tape recorder to rehearsals. She would study the tape to get a feel for the music and how Miss Horne interpreted it. When the conductor left shortly after the show opened on Broadway last year, Miss Horne asked her to take over.

"We had a good rapport right away," recalls Miss Twine, "but I'm basically shy and my first instinct is to say, 'No, I don't believe I can do that.' I think Lena had more faith in me than I had in myself. We talked it over, and I made myself say 'Yes' and just prayed."

In a sense, Miss Twine, who is 37, has been preparing for this role since she was nine years old and played for the gospel choir in her hometown of Muskogee, Okla. "They just started singing. I had to listen and pick up their key rather than the one printed in the hymn book. It was real good practice for me," she says. During the show, she has to improvise constantly to keep up with Miss Horne, who changes her tempo with the mood of the audience. "I try to be on top of it, to catch the little nuances and play off of her, so we are on the same wave-length," Miss Twine says.

There was always music in her home when she was growing up. Her father, Harry Twine, is a lawyer by profession. "But," she says, "he plays the piano like Fats Waller." Her mother, Frances, a school teacher, exposed Linda and her brother and sister to "all the culture she could find in a small town like Muskogee." Linda played the piano "by ear" long before she had her first formal lesson.

The folks back home were thrilled last March when Quincy Jones, accepting a Grammy Award for Miss Horne, mentioned Linda Twine twice on network TV. Her parents' phone didn't stop ringing for days.

Miss Twine majored in piano at Oklahoma City University and, after graduation, moved to New York to study at the Manhattan School of Music. Although her ambition was to play classical music, she soon found the jobs were in the pop field, and began doing arrangements for nightclub

singers. While accompanying a singer in 1977, she was heard by Cheryl Hardwick, who at the time was playing the keyboards for the Broadway musical *The Wiz*. Miss Hardwick put in a good word for her, and Miss Twine was hired as her substitute. Because she proved so adept at handling the musicians during rehearsal, she was promoted to assistant conductor.

One night, the inevitable happened. The conductor couldn't go on, and Miss Twine was, as she describes it, "pushed into it. I hadn't planned to be a conductor. I was scared out of my wits. I tell you, all the money in the world couldn't have paid me for that first experience. But the band was very supportive, and I just went with the flow."

From *The Wiz*, she went on to play the keyboards and be assistant conductor on *Ain't Misbehavin'* and *Bring Back Birdie*, finding time to work with the Boys Choir of Harlem, which she still does when she is in New York. It is no coincidence, she believes, that she has been asked primarily to play for Black shows.

"Black musicians are hired for the Black shows," she says. "Lena insists on having a number of Black players in her band, but this is usually not the case on Broadway. There is discrimination against Blacks. Look in the pits, and you see mostly White faces, although it is slightly better now than a few years ago. I would like to see more women working there, too. I'll do anything I can to help other minorities. I've been lucky, but there are people out there just as talented who haven't gotten the breaks I have."

Being away from New York has one serious drawback for Miss Twine. She has to leave her boyfriend, trombone and tuba player Jack Jeffers, behind. "Relationships are important to me. I have a support system. Jack is a part of it and my family, of course. But I'm much too career-oriented to think about getting married. I'll have children in my next life," she says, laughing.



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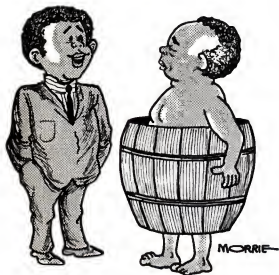


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CITIES & STATES	PLACE	DATE	TIME
Harvey, IL	Holiday Inn	Wed. 9/8	8:00 p.m.
Milwaukee, WI	Uihlen Hall	Thurs. 9/9	8:15 p.m.
Elgin, IL	Hemmens Auditorium	Fri. 9/10	8:00 p.m.
Fort Wayne, IN	Scottish Rites Auditorium	Sat. 9/11	8:00 p.m.
Columbus, OH	Meridian Auditorium	Sun. 9/12	6:30 p.m.
Akron, OH	Civic Theatre	Tues. 9/14	8:00 p.m.
Steubenville, OH	Lawman Hall	Wed. 9/15	8:00 p.m.
Harrisburg, PA	The Forum	Thurs. 9/16	8:00 p.m.
Wilmington, DE	Grand Opera House	Fri. 9/17	8:00 p.m.
Atlantic City, NJ	Club Harlem	Sat. 9/18	8:00 p.m.
Trenton, NJ	War Memorial Building	Sun. 9/19	7:00 p.m.
Mt. Vernon, NY	Mt. Vernon High School	Tues. 9/21	8:00 p.m.
Bridgeport, CT	Central High School	Wed. 9/22	8:00 p.m.
Providence, RI	Venus de Milo	Thurs. 9/23	8:00 p.m.
Hartford, CT	The Parkview Hilton	Fri. 9/24	8:30 p.m.
New Haven, CT	Lyman Auditorium	Sat. 9/25	8:00 p.m.
New York, NY	New York Hilton	Sun. 9/26	3:00 & 8:00 p.m.
Springfield, MA	Symphony Hall	Tues. 9/28	8:00 p.m.
Poughkeepsie, NY	Poughkeepsie High School	Wed. 9/29	8:00 p.m.
Staten Island, NY	Columbian Lyceum	Thurs. 9/30	8:00 p.m.
Hempstead, NY	Holbrook Play House	Fri. 10/1	8:30 p.m.
Newark, NJ	Symphony Hall	Sat. 10/2	8:00 p.m.
Boston, MA	John Hancock Hall	Sun. 10/3	3:00 & 8:00 p.m.
Paramus, NY	Imperial Manor	Tues. 10/5	8:00 p.m.
Terry City, NJ	Terry High School	Wed. 10/6	8:00 p.m.
Brooklyn, NY	Brooklyn Academy of Music	Thurs. 10/7	8:00 p.m.
Philadelphia, PA	Academy of Music	Fri. 10/8	8:00 p.m.
Philadelphia, PA	Academy of Music	Sat. 10/9	2:00 p.m.
Baltimore, MD	Talmadge Hall Fieldhouse	Sun. 10/10	5:00 p.m.
Annapolis, MD	Annapolis St. High School	Wed. 10/13	8:00 p.m.
Princess Anne, MD	Eda Fitzgerald Center	Thurs. 10/14	8:00 p.m.
Norfolk, VA	Chryster Hall	Fri. 10/15	8:00 p.m.
Richmond, VA	Mosque Auditorium	Sat. 10/16	8:00 p.m.
Washington, DC	Constitution Hall	Sun. 10/17	2:00 & 7:00 p.m.
Silver Spring, MD	Indian Spring Country Club	Mon. 10/18	7:30 p.m.
Syracuse, NY	Landmark Theatre	Wed. 10/20	8:00 p.m.
Rochester, NY	Holiday Inn-Downtown	Thurs. 10/21	8:00 p.m.
Buffalo, NY	Kleinhans Music Hall	Fri. 10/22	8:00 p.m.
Cleveland, OH	Music Hall	Sun. 10/24	6:00 p.m.
Youngstown, OH	Powers Auditorium	Mon. 10/25	8:00 p.m.
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Charleston, WV	Municipal Auditorium	Wed. 10/27	8:00 p.m.
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Greenville, NC	Greenville Moose Lodge	Tues. 11/2	8:00 p.m.
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Goldboro, NC	Dillard School	Fri. 11/5	8:00 p.m.
Winston-Salem, NC	J. C. Benton Convention Center	Sat. 11/6	8:00 p.m.
Asheville, NC	Thomas Wolfe Auditorium	Sun. 11/7	6:00 p.m.
Knoxville, TN	Civic Auditorium	Mon. 11/8	8:00 p.m.
Lexington, KY	Memorial Hall	Thurs. 11/11	8:00 p.m.
Cincinnati, OH	Music Hall	Fri. 11/12	8:00 p.m.
Gary, IN	West Side High School	Sat. 11/13	8:00 p.m.
Chicago, IL	Arne Crown Theatre	Sun. 11/14	3:00 & 8:00 p.m.
South Bend, IN	Morris Civic Auditorium	Tues. 11/16	8:00 p.m.
Benton Harbor, MI	Performing Arts Center	Wed. 11/17	8:00 p.m.
Grand Rapids, MI	Ottawa Hills High School	Thurs. 11/18	8:00 p.m.
Ft. MI	Whiting Auditorium	Fri. 11/19	8:00 p.m.
Lansing, MI	Everett High School	Sat. 11/20	8:00 p.m.
Detroit, MI	Palace Theatre	Sun. 11/21	3:00 & 8:00 p.m.
Lorain, OH	Palace Theatre	Tues. 11/23	8:00 p.m.
Toledo, OH	Masonic Auditorium	Wed. 11/24	8:00 p.m.
Dayton, OH	Convention Center	Fri. 11/26	8:00 p.m.
Indianapolis, IN	Convention Center	Sat. 11/27	8:00 p.m.
Louisville, KY	Memorial Auditorium	Sun. 11/28	5:00 p.m.
Evansville, IN	Uhlberg Auditorium	Tues. 11/30	8:00 p.m.
Carbondale, IL	E. J. J. C. Student Center	Wed. 12/1	8:00 p.m.
Muncie, IN	Emens Auditorium	Thurs. 12/2	8:00 p.m.
Oscatur, IL	Masonic Temple	Fri. 12/3	8:00 p.m.
St. Louis, MO	Kiel Auditorium	Sat. 12/4	8:00 p.m.
Kansas City, MO	Music Hall	Sun. 12/5	6:00 p.m.
Wichita, KS	Century II	Tues. 12/7	8:00 p.m.
Junction City, KS	McClain Auditorium	Wed. 12/8	8:00 p.m.
Columbia, MO	Hickman High School	Thurs. 12/9	8:00 p.m.
Peoria, IL	Continental Regency Hotel	Fri. 12/10	8:00 p.m.
Joliet, IL	Pershing School Auditorium	Sat. 12/11	8:00 p.m.
Aurora, IL	Paramount Arts Centre	Sun. 12/12	6:00 p.m.

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# How to Get Through the Holidays Without Gaining Weight



*There is a simple way to keep seasonal eating fun and not fattening for you*

**W**ITH the holiday season going full steam, visions of calorie-laden feasts already may be turning into nightmares of pinching zippers and bulging seams for those who dread gaining weight. If the problem of keeping pounds off and the palate still pleased is weighing heavily on your mind, relax. Medical and nutritional experts say that with an ounce of preparation and moderation, it can be done.

"Unfortunately, people don't view it as a problem until after the holidays," says Beth Bussey, a registered dietician with the Morehouse Family Practice Center in Atlanta. "If they thought about it ahead of time, they probably would not gain weight because they would be more aware of what they eat."

Mrs. Bussey and other specialists say it is important to take stock of your eating habits before, during and after the holidays.

"In general, most people will not gain if they eat three meals a day," says Dr. John Townsend, chairman of the Howard University Department of Medicine. "The best thing is for them

**Holiday parties** need not be fattening. The best defense against a lavish buffet table is caution. Eat before you go out. Choose only low-calorie foods from the table and use a small plate. Remember, you are not at the party just to eat.

*Continued on Page 58*

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# Weight Continued

to maintain a philosophy—and it's an old one—of moderation."

Getting some exercise, "if nothing but walking," he says, also is important to avoid extra pounds during the holidays. "Nowadays what people do is eat, sit down, watch a nice television program and snack in between."

Here are some suggestions from Dr. Townsend, Mrs. Bussey and other authorities to help make sure your feasting isn't fattening.

1. Holiday party buffet tables can be a dieter's bitter enemy. Turn the situation to your advantage. Plan ahead. To lessen your appetite, eat a salad or drink a lot of water before going to the party. Take along low-calorie helpmates such as sugar substitutes, vegetable juices or diet drinks. Choose low-calorie foods for your plate by sticking with fresh fruits and raw vegetables instead of cookies and cake. Use a small plate, and refuse "seconds."

2. Grocery shopping for the holidays should include buying low-calorie substitutes to use when preparing a holiday meal. Try a non-stick spray instead of shortening, butter or margarine. Consider buying smoked turkey or sausage (use only a little) to season foods instead of ham hocks or salt pork. Low-fat plain yogurt is a good substitute for sour cream. Low-fat cottage cheese can replace cream cheese. Choose poultry, fish and veal over red meat. But when buying meat, buy lean cuts and trim any visible fat. Don't shop on an empty stomach, (you're tempted to buy things you don't need), leave the kids at home, (they encourage the buying of junk foods).

3. Cooking tips include broiling or baking meats whenever possible. If you use smoked or salted meats for seasoning, boil them in a separate pot and drain off fat and salty water before adding to the main dish. Sugar can be cut by  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup in some baking recipes. Vanilla or cinnamon added to a dish can make it seem sweeter. A lower-calorie egg nog can be made using egg substitutes, skim milk and vanilla.

4. Nibbling or tasting while cooking a meal can be self-defeating for weight watchers. If you must taste, use a small spoon or ask someone else to do it. Keep sugarless gum, celery or carrot sticks handy to combat those nibbling urges.

5. Dessert for the weight-conscious could include fresh fruit or a plain gelatin prepared with un-



**Take an intelligent approach** to watching your weight during the holidays. Pay attention to what you buy. Select lean meats and fresh fruits over sugary candies and other holiday goodies. Remember, watching the game on television after dinner won't do your waistline any good. Don't let the holidays become your license to overdo everything.

sweetened fruit juices. An artificially sweetened gelatin mix also could be used. Consider skipping dessert. If you know the willpower will not be there, cut back a little during the main meal to make up for eating a small portion of your favorite holiday pie or cake.

6. It may be easier for you to get through the holiday season if you set a definite time to weigh yourself each week and set a "top weight." In other words, you could decide to weigh yourself each Tuesday morning from November to January and vow not to go more than five pounds over your starting weight.

7. Forget your childhood training to eat everything on your plate; leave something.

8. Be assertive. Tell your co-workers, friends and relatives not to

offer you fattening foods. If this is hard for you, try thinking up friendly ways to refuse the food. Decide what you will say before you get to the dinner or party. If cooking dinner is on you, don't be afraid to try cooking with less salt, sugar and fat. Your family and friends may just enjoy the change.

9. During the holidays, and any other time of the year, be sure each meal you eat is a nutritious one.

10. Remember, getting some form of exercise, a brisk walk would do, is essential to making your careful holiday eating effective.

"We say to ourselves, 'It's Christmas, I'll never lose weight,'" Mrs. Bussey says, "and that has a way of being true." So, she and others say, think positive and think ahead. Festive doesn't have to mean fattening.

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# Miles Davis' Miraculous Recovery From Stroke

BY LEONARD FEATHER

*Trumpeter credits wife Cicely Tyson with helping him rebound from painful bout*



At the NAACP Image Awards ceremony in Los Angeles this year, Miles Davis and wife Cicely Tyson celebrate the trumpeter's renaissance.



Miles gets down during concert at Avery Fisher Hall in New York City.

**I**N THIS corner, weighing 137 pounds, sits the resurgent champion, Miles Dewey Davis III. Comfortable in a wine red gown and slippers, he sips Perrier in his suite at l'Ermitage, one of Beverly Hills' most sumptuous hotels.

It's clear that even the famous Davis rasping vocal cords have cleared up a little. Asked to explain, he first grins

and replies, "I had a voice lift," then adds, "I just stopped smoking and drinking. Don't miss it. I drink about four gallons of Perrier a day. Flushes you out. That's all I need."

His relaxed, expansive manner comes as no surprise. Since the near-miraculous recovery of his health, capped last November by his marriage to longtime friend actress Cicely

Tyson, Miles Davis has been in better shape, physically, psychologically and musically, than anyone had a right to expect.

The story of his comeback, after almost six years' absence, due mainly to a series of near-catastrophic illnesses, is very familiar—but one aspect of the resurgence has been kept quiet. Now, as they say, it can be told.





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Cicely assists Miles at the keyboard, which he uses as therapy for his hand.

Los Angeles Times Photo

## Miles Davis *Continued*

Last February, seven months after his return to the public eye, Davis mysteriously canceled a series of West Coast bookings. Skeptics attributed it to a temperament for which he was well known. The facts are very different. For two crucial months it seemed entirely possible that Miles Davis would be unable to lift a horn again.

"I had just returned from Africa," said Cicely Tyson, "and I got a call from the hospital saying that Miles couldn't move his right hand."

Davis: "She didn't tell me until afterward—it would have frightened me too much—but the doctor told her I could never use this arm again. I couldn't even pick anything up; couldn't write. They didn't tell me this either, but I'd had a stroke, and the hospital couldn't do anything."

Tyson: "One of the most difficult things was to convince him that his physician wasn't giving us any answers. I could not sit by and just see Miles there in that condition. Finally I just physically picked him up one Sunday and took him to a Chinese acupuncturist."

"I didn't want to go," Davis said, "but she said, 'Try it. If you don't like it, you're not obliged to go back.' The doctor put needles in here, and here, and here," indicating shoulders, ankles and other acupuncture points.

Within two months the miracle happened. "They had some kind of cast on my hand," he continued. "One night I woke up, picked up the horn and found I could play it. See how strong it is

now? Feel this! It's not just back to normal—it's better than normal. And I keep exercising it on the keyboard to keep my circulation good."

"I take some kind of Chinese herbs every morning, in a gelatin form. Makes you strong. Cicely also said I should swim every day. So I swam every day in Peru. She went there to judge a Miss Universe contest."

The visit to Lima found Davis in buoyant spirits. "They had a private health club right on the ocean; indoor pool, outdoor pool. I have to get plenty of exercise to fight off arthritis in these 56-year-old bones."

Complimented on his rebound, Davis replied, "I owe it all to Cicely. If it hadn't been for her, and that doctor, I don't know where I'd have been. After that experience I'll never fear anything, ever again."

Paradoxically, fears on a less significant level still bother him. "Every time I get ready to play a concert, I get butterflies in my stomach; I can't eat the day before, and everything seems like it aches. Once I'm onstage the nervousness disappears, and I gather strength while I'm playing."

For the sake of nerves and health alike, he spends more of his spare time nowadays in Southern California. "Cicely has that place in Malibu—we'll probably move out there next week for a while. It's just a block from the beach."

The amenities of the good life presently include a choice of five residences. The spacious brownstone he has long owned in Manhattan is being

remodeled; it will take a year to ready it for reoccupancy. Meanwhile the Davises have two New York apartments, one on Fifth Avenue, the other on the West Side, and a retreat in Montauk on Long Island.

The West Coast has a growing appeal for him: "You could put 50 more years on your life out here—even with the smog, 'cause when you go out on that beach, there's no smog."

His long sabbatical established Davis as the most potent box-office attraction in jazz history. Speaking of his Japanese tour, he said: "I made a lot of money over there. Everywhere, in fact. I'm just now getting back to where I was, you know?"

"You mean you made that kind of money before? Concerts at \$100,000 a night?"

"Well, no, not before. Just coming back did that. And I came back right—I saved my lip, my ideas are fresh, and I write all the time. Sometimes I'll write a bass figure, sometimes a melody. I like the passacaglia form, you know, when you repeat the same bass line and write a simple melody, maybe four bars—it opens up so many possibilities; the rest you can ad-lib."

The transition of Miles Davis from acceptance by the jazz coterie to mass rock audience appeal has involved a sharp change in his listening habits. The only recordings in sight were by pop groups. Asked about Wynton Marsalis, the hot new trumpeter, he said, "I haven't heard him, and I'm not curious. All the trumpeters copy off of Clifford Brown and Fats Navarro and Dizzy, and the saxophonists copy Coltrane and Wayne Shorter and Sonny Rollins. There's no original players anymore. I know the guys in my band like Marsalis—my saxophonist, Bill Evans, told me about him—but I'd rather hear something with a different approach from what they call jazz."

"I like Journey. I like the Who. I know the new Weather Report must be good, because Joe Zawinul and Wayne are two helluva musicians. But I listen to Stockhausen and Ravel. And singers: They get the most out of a melody. You know I learned how to phrase years ago from Frank Sinatra. I still go to see him, still go backstage and talk to him. And I like Al Jarreau."

Davis' jazz tastes seem to lean in the direction of his original influences: Clark Terry, whom he knew in the 1930s in his East St. Louis hometown, always springs to his lips, along with Gillespie, Roy Eldridge and, perhaps surprisingly, Harry James.



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Miles takes a break while the rhythm and string sections carry on.

## Miles Davis *Continued*

Asked about Freddie Hubbard, he replied, "All technique but no feeling. I like to hear him play, and he does sound different than Fats and Brownie, but Brownie had that feeling."

On Woody Shaw: "Now there's a great trumpet player. He can play different from all of them."

But his basic interests today lie in the worlds of Stevie Wonder and Paul McCartney, whose latest cassettes lay at his side. He no longer reads the jazz publications, but occasionally sees Rolling Stone. "I like that magazine, but the last time I saw it they had all White guys in it. How about Kool and the Gang? Earth, Wind and Fire? They should write more about people like that. Black people really dominate the music world, but all I see is White people—especially if they have long hair."

His reaction to press reports, many of them negative after his comeback last year, pointed up the degree to which Miles has mellowed. "You take it as it comes; some bad, some good. I wasn't bothered by your review of my Hollywood Bowl concert—hell, I was so sick that night I could hardly walk."

**M**OST of Miles Davis' friends agree with me that his return to physical well being and artistic renewal is due in very large measure to Cicely Tyson. She is inclined to demur.

"People are saying that I did it; but he had to want to do it. There comes a time in one's life when you begin to realize certain facts about yourself, and it becomes a matter of wanting to continue or letting it end."

"But it took somebody like you to give him that incentive."

"Well, yes, we all need to have some source of energy, some motivating force, but look how many loves Miles has been in and out of. During the time that we were apart—we went together from about 1966 to '69—at the end of

every year I would call him on New Year's Eve and I marveled that he was still here. I used to say, 'Hey, look, you may think it's time for you to go, but The Man Upstairs is not ready for you. You have not completed your job on this earth.' Often he'd just hang up the phone, and I'd call back and say it again. Despite his anger and resistance, this always stayed in his mind. You know, the mind of this man is..." There was a long pause, and she continued: "I can't even find a term to define it. It is unlike that of any other human being I have ever met, and I certainly could not stand to watch it go to waste."

"I remember when he was in the hospital one time with a leg problem. I spent every day there, and we talked about whether he would play again. He said, 'Well, I don't know if there's anything there.' Being a creative artist myself, I know that we all go through fallow periods. Miles is a man who produces from his gut; if there is nothing to give, he can't fake it."

"I also remember one night a little later, when I called him at home and he asked if I wanted to hear him play. That usually meant he'd play me a record on the phone. Then he said, 'I've been practicing. I've been playing.' When he blew on his horn, it was hard to believe—a sound I hadn't heard in years."

The sound Cicely Tyson heard represented the conquest of more obstacles than his audiences ever knew: to name just a few, ulcers, throat polyps, pneumonia, bursitis, an infected leg, an agonizing hip degeneration that led to the implanting of a prosthetic ball-and-socket and withdrawal from the pain-killing drugs necessitated by the hip crisis.

Audiences who found him less than amiable during the years that led to those traumas took delight in accepting Davis as an evil-image cult figure. As Cicely Tyson explains, "He used that

facade to protect his vulnerability. Beneath that false surface you see what a sensitive, beautiful person he is. Nobody could play that without having a great depth of soul."

Embarrassed by the flood of endearments, Davis said, "You mean I had a personality lift?"

In a sense, he did. During our four hours together, Miles' conversation was relatively free of the 4- and 12-letter obscenities that had long been his verbal punctuation marks.

Said Tyson, "He told me just the other day that he was finally beginning to realize he doesn't have to resort to those words to make his point clear. He had begun to understand and respect himself as a man, and as a Black man with a dignity that he commands and demands. He was the last one to recognize that millions of people all over the world deem him a god. That is a tremendous responsibility. Miles, like many people categorized as geniuses, never even knew his own true worth."

Along with this acceptance of his stature, Miles Davis has expanded his social milieu. Though he still insists that the associates of the earlier years are his only true friends ("mostly fighters and musicians"), through his wife he has been drawn into new circles: directors, actors, diplomats, heads of state, men and women who present a new intellectual challenge. Along with the wealth and mass adulation that have been his since the 1950s, he has a new self-image.

"It's a whole different thing," he says. "Peru was great. You see a lot of diamonds and they're all real. Everything is real, no b.s. They had farms, too, with lots of horses; reminded me of my father's land." (The son of a wealthy dentist and substantial property owner, Davis as a child had been a good horseman, riding around his father's 200-acre ranch.) "It's a nice symbol of your status in this life to know that you can get anything you want. I like clothes, as you know, and shoes. A good band—I've *always* had a good band. I have a production crew that makes my jobs easy; all I have to do is just come on and play. We have nice air, which I love out here; and if I miss New York I can always go back. Yes, it's a good life."

"You're in great shape now," I commented. "You've been setting trends, revolutionizing music, for 35 years. How much longer do you want to go on?"

Davis smiled broadly: "Are you kidding? Forever!"



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# FATHERS WHO RAISE THEIR CHILDREN ALONE

*For many Black men, there's no greater joy than the responsibility for their sons' and daughters' upbringing*

IN the old television show, *The Courtship of Eddie's Father*, the story revolves around a single father raising his young son. Today, many of the situations depicted in that show are being repeated in homes across the country by men who are raising their children without the help of a woman. Not only are they setting the family table, they are turning the table as the traditional two-parent family becomes less common.

With divorce being a major factor in American society, it is no longer a novelty when the father takes care of his children's everyday needs. And, in recent years, many Black men have opted to assume the roles of both mother and father. Some men don't want their children to be raised by anyone else. Others feel that they can do a better job than the mother, and most "just don't want to be away from my children."

So, instead of automatically letting the mother get custody of their children, some men—who are divorced, separated or single—have chosen to fight for the right to have their children with them, and many have won.



Robert Thirston, a 35-year-old commercial banker in Chicago, is like many other men who (because of divorce or some other situation) have taken, and enjoy, the responsibility of raising their children without the help of a woman. At left, Thirston serves dinner to his 15-year-old son, Robert II, and his 14-year-old daughter, LaTonia. Robert II has been in his father's custody since his parents divorced in 1976. LaTonia, who (above) is being helped with her homework, stayed with her mother but moved in with her father three years ago when her parents agreed on that arrangement. "I love my children, and I had no desire to see them being raised by anyone else," Thirston says. "I wanted the pleasure of raising my children and seeing them grow up. A man is just as capable as a woman when it comes to raising children, but he must be willing to make the necessary sacrifices."

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**Clarence Holliday** (above), a 34-year-old electronics technician for an oil company in Missouri City, Texas, cuts the hair of his 14-year-old son, Anthony, while his other two sons, Marques, 11, and Clarence Jr., 10, study in the background. He won custody of his three sons after his seven-year marriage ended in 1974. "I just felt that I had the responsibility to be the best father they could have," Holliday says. "We have gone through some tough times, but I have never regretted taking on this kind of responsibility."



## FATHERS *Continued*

Nevertheless, the idea of children growing up in a "motherless" or "womanless" home is still a fairly new one, but one that is slowly being accepted. Judge Sylvester White, a juvenile court judge in Chicago for 12 years before becoming a member of the Illinois Appellate Court, says more fathers are being granted custody of their children because the philosophy of those in the court system has changed. "For many years, there was a presumption that favored mothers in child custody cases, and unless there were some unusual circumstances, the children ended up with their mother," Justice White says. "However, the presumption that the mother is automatically the best parent to take care of the children is an outdated viewpoint. The decision to grant custody has to be governed by the best interests of the child, and in many cases, the best interests lie with the child's father."

While some judges have adjusted their thoughts regarding the idea of fathers raising their children, many mothers also recognize and agree that in many instances the children will be better off with their fathers—thereby avoiding long, heated, and sometimes, expensive court battles. Many men are just as willing as women to make the necessary sacrifices to provide their children with the proper amount of attention, care and love.

But even though men have proven they can handle the dual role of *father and mother* just as well as women who serve as *mother and father*, there are still some eyebrows raised whenever a man takes on the task of raising his children alone. Certain situations might make the dual-parent role a bit more difficult for men than women, but many fathers agree that they would much rather face these difficulties than be without their children.

This "new" type of family arrangement is slowly developing but it is likely to grow faster as the divorce rates continue to skyrocket and men begin to take a more active role in the upbringing of their children.

**Dr. James Bailey Jr.**, an orthodontist in Berkeley, Calif., checks the meat counter at a local grocery store while shopping with his two daughters, Carmen, 8 (l.), and Lauren, 12. The girls moved in with their father a year ago when he and his wife divorced. The 43-year-old Dr. Bailey admits that he was "fearful of the unknown" at the beginning. "I wondered if I could handle the role of both mother and father, but things have worked out beautifully," he says. "It's such a pleasure to have the opportunity to help the girls develop."



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**There are some people  
who just have to have the best!**



**Jasper Watkins**, a 24-year-old pharmacist in Jacksonville, Fla., got custody of his two-year-old daughter, Shamair, last year after he and his daughter's mother agreed that she should be with him. "I will always tell my daughter that her mother didn't give her up because she didn't love her, but because she recognized that I was in a better financial situation to take care of her," says Watkins, who is studying to become a registered pharmacist. For Watkins, the idea of raising a young daughter hasn't been a problem, he says, because of his experiences with his sister. "When we were growing up, my mother taught me how to feed her, clean her and comb her hair," he says. "So, with Shamair, it's just like doing it all over again. I love her, and I'm determined to make it work."

**Roland Handy** (below), a 40-year-old human resources developer for the Virginia Dept. for the Aging in Richmond, helps his 11-year-old daughter, Tiffani, pick out a dress during one of their usual shopping sprees. Tiffani has been in her father's custody since her parents divorced in 1973. "It's tough for any parent to raise a child alone, but this has been a learning experience for both of us," Handy says. "Since I've been with Tiffani, she has taught me to be more affectionate, sensitive and patient. We feel comfortable with each other and we can talk about anything from hygiene to sex education." Like many other men raising their children, Handy says he often talks with women to get their input on parenting. However, he says love, trust and caring are the keys to successfully raising children alone — whether it's done by the mother or father. "This is an experience I have enjoyed, and I wouldn't trade it for anything," he says.









Wayne Davis, special agent in charge of the FBI in Michigan, became the lone Black SAC when the Bureau promoted John Glover, SAC in Atlanta, to assistant director in September. Top (left), Davis and Agent Ed Leary, a supervisor in the Michigan department, review a report. Davis displays an M-16 rifle (above, left) used in SWAT raids. "I'm decent with guns," he says, "but our country would be better without them."

## WAYNE DAVIS:

# FBI Special Agent In Charge

## New York-born G-man runs Bureau's busy Michigan division

**O**N the 26th and top floor of the McNamara Federal Building in Detroit, the FBI's lone black special agent in charge doesn't stop to think about what he does on his job. "I just do it," says 44-year-old Wayne Davis, a 19-year veteran. "I have only one speed—and that's wide open."

Since his appointment in March 1981, Davis' responsibility for spearheading the Michigan FBI—the eighth largest of the 59 regional FBI divisions—has kept him at full speed. And with 240 agents and 125 support

employees throughout Michigan under his supervision, the six-foot-five-plus, 236-pound Davis seems to fit right in. "I'm a big guy and it's a big operation," he says. "We kind of go together."

All documentation of FBI work in the state crosses his desk for approval before going to headquarters in Washington, D.C. Davis sends out agents on various assignments and they report their findings.

Ask him how he got where he is (the only higher slots are those for 11 assistant directors and the director, all in

Washington), and Davis answers without false modesty. "I think it's fair to say I've been pretty decent at it," he says. "I'm just happy that [FBI Director] William Webster thought I deserved a shot at something as major as the Michigan FBI."

The climb began when Davis was hired by the FBI in 1963 and stationed in its Detroit office. After solving eight bank robbery cases there, he took on assignments in Newark and Washington, D.C. After that, he was appointed an Equal Employment Opportunity



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*Hestine Cole*

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Helping Davis coordinate the activities of 240 Michigan agents (left) are (l. to r.) Squad Supervisor Moyese Williams and Asst. Special Agent In Charge Eugene F. Glenn. At right, Davis confers with agents in the spy section of the operation. Davis also has 125 support employees.



## FBI SPECIAL AGENT *Continued*

officer and a chief of applications and placement at the Washington headquarters. He then became an assistant special agent in charge in Alexandria, Va., later returning to Washington as an inspector. His role as special agent in charge in Indianapolis in 1980 gave him jurisdiction over the Vernon Jordan assassination attempt case.

Davis didn't want to leave Indianapolis. He liked the area and the work there; his wife, Lois, was enjoying law school, and his two daughters, 16-year-old Adrienne and 13-year-old Cheryl, liked the schools they attended. Now that he's settled in Detroit again, Davis is hoping his latest move will be his last. "I'm happy right where I am," he says.

His entry into the FBI "just hap-

pened." Following his graduation from the University of Connecticut at Storrs and fulfillment of his Army commission as first lieutenant, Davis was looking for work. A civilian told him about opportunities in the FBI. "I said, 'But I'm not qualified,'" Davis recalls. But a series of tests proved he was qualified, and in 1963 Davis joined the fewer than 30 Blacks on the force. Today there are 252 Blacks in the 7,821-member Bureau.

While growing up in Harlem, Davis couldn't envision becoming an FBI agent. He recalls, "I never knew anybody in the FBI, so it wasn't like, 'Hey, I want to be an FBI agent.' Being an FBI agent was unachievable, not even within my scope of consideration." Yet there were police officers in Harlem whom he could look up to, and they

became his role models for a career in law enforcement. Harlem had its bad role models too, but Davis leaned toward the good "because I had two parents who were concerned about two sons growing up in New York City."

Davis didn't think that, once he got his foot in the door, he could become a supervisor. It was partly due to the poor reputation that the J. Edgar Hoover administration had for hiring Blacks. "In my view, from the early '60s to 1972 the Hoover administration wasn't as aggressive in hiring Blacks as it could have been," he says. "But I think every director since Hoover has made [hiring Blacks] a priority, and William Webster has made it one of his highest priorities." Still, he adds, Hoover was not the unfair director that many Blacks perceived him to be. "I wasn't the first Black supervisor," he says. "I think he was fully willing to give credit where it was due."

Much of the sacrifice Davis speaks about is time he is forced to spend away from his family. When he worked on the Jordan case, he spent as much as a week away from home. Davis today might leave home at 6:30 in the morning and return after 6:30 in the evening. The household is sometimes under strain because of his duties coupled with his wife's role as homemaker, senior law student at Wayne State University and part-time law clerk. "She's done an outstanding job," Davis says. "I don't know how she does it." Adds the Special Agent in Charge, "That woman and I have been through so much. If it hadn't been for her, I probably would be selling peanuts on Dexter Avenue or somewhere else." When he says it, he isn't laughing.



At home, Davis cherishes what little time his job allows him to spend with his "three ladies." Lois, his wife, is in law school. Adrienne (foreground, l.), a high school senior, is preparing to be a National Merit Scholar finalist, while Cheryl enjoys an international accelerated program in middle school.



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**Bacardi eggnog.** Greet friends with cheer. Simply add 12 oz. Bacardi dark rum to 1 qt. prepared eggnog. Fold in 1 cup whipped heavy cream. Chill. Crown with nutmeg. Serves 12.

**Bacardi strawberry daiquiri.** Enjoyed by all. In large container, mix juice of 8 limes or 6 lemons and 9 tps. sugar (or 6 oz. limeade or lemonade concentrate, omit sugar). Add 1½ packages frozen strawberries and one 750 ml bottle Bacardi light rum. Split in two batches to blend. Pour batches into bowl or pitcher over ice. Serves 18.

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**Bacardi and juice.**  
Celebrate! Splash a jigger of Bacardi light rum over ice in a tall glass. Fill with pink grapefruit or orange juice. Squeeze in lime or lemon wedge. Stir. Ah-h-h.

**Bacardi and cola.**  
Party favorite. Just splash a jigger of Bacardi dark rum over ice in a tall glass, fill with cola and add a squeeze of lime.

**Bacardi piña colada.**  
Winty winds carry tropical tidings. Blend 1 oz. cream of coconut and 2 oz. pineapple juice (or prepared mix) with 1½ oz. Bacardi dark rum and crushed ice. Serve tall with ice and pineapple.

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date with  
a dish



Sweet and delicious holiday treats (clockwise from upper right): Blueberry Bread, Raisin-Nut Bread, Oatmeal-Raisin Drop Cookies, Old-Fashioned Sugar Cookies, Pound Cake, Southern Peanut Cookies, Applesauce Cake with Fudge Frosting, Schaumtorte and Streusel Coffeecake.

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**Schaumtorte:** Draw a circle (9-in. diameter) on 3 sheets of heavy brown paper. Place each on a baking sheet and butter lightly. Combine 8 egg whites (room temp.),  $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp. cream of tartar and  $\frac{1}{4}$  tsp. salt. Beat until egg whites hold soft peaks. Add all but 2 tbs. of 2 c. sugar, 1 tbs. at a time, beating until stiff. Add 2 tsp. each vinegar and vanilla and 2 tbs. sugar; beat well until sugar is dissolved. Spoon equal amounts of meringue on each circle, spreading to within  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. of edge. Build up edges slightly. Bake at 250° for 45-50 min.; remove meringue from paper and return to oven to cool slowly as oven cools. To serve, place one meringue shell on serving plate. Fold 3 c. sliced strawberries, peaches or raspberries,  $\frac{1}{2}$  c. sugar and  $\frac{1}{4}$  c. toasted almonds into 4 c. whipped cream. Spoon  $\frac{1}{2}$  mixture over meringue layer, and alternate meringue with fruit mixture. Garnish with fresh fruit. Serve at once.

**Apple Sauce Cake:** Sift together: 2 c. sifted flour,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  tsp. cinnamon, 1 tsp. each baking powder and cocoa,  $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp. each baking soda, salt and ground cloves. Cream  $\frac{1}{2}$  c. butter and 1 c. sugar; add 2 tsp. lemon extract. Add to butter 2 beaten eggs, one at a time, beating well after each. Add dry ingredients alternately with  $1\frac{1}{2}$  c. unsweetened apple sauce, mixing well after each addition. Fold in 1 c. each seedless raisins and chopped pecans or walnuts. Pour into two greased and floured 9-in. cake pans. Bake at 350° for 30-35 min. Let cool in pan 5 min., then transfer to wire rack. Frost with Fudge Frosting.

**Fudge Frosting:** Combine  $1\frac{1}{2}$  c. sugar,  $\frac{1}{2}$  c. each milk and butter in a saucepan over low heat, stirring constantly until butter is melted. Boil for 30 sec., stirring constantly. Remove from heat and add  $\frac{1}{4}$  c. semisweet chocolate bits and 1 tsp. vanilla, stirring until chocolate melts. Set pan in a bowl of cold water to cool quickly. Stir constantly but gently until frosting is proper consistency for spreading on the cake.



**Angel Food Cake:** Sift 4 times 1 c. sifted flour and  $\frac{1}{4}$  c. sugar. Combine 12 egg whites (room temp.),  $1\frac{1}{2}$  tsp. cream of tartar, 2 tsp. vanilla,  $\frac{1}{4}$  tsp. almond extract and  $\frac{1}{4}$  tsp. salt. Beat until soft peaks form. Sprinkle 1 c. sugar over egg whites, 2 tbs. at a time, beating well after each until stiff. Sift  $\frac{1}{4}$  c. flour mixture over egg whites; fold in gently but thoroughly about 15 times with a wire whisk or rubber spatula. Repeat until all flour mixture has been folded in. Turn into ungreased 10-in. tube pan. Gently run knife through batter to eliminate air pockets. Bake in center of 375° oven for 30-35 min. Turn pan upside down on wire rack to cool. Remove cake and frost with mixture of confectioner's sugar and just enough milk to make thick. Cover the top of cake with icing and allow excess to run down sides.



*Rich & Smooth...*



#### WINNING WALDORF SALAD

- 3 cups chopped apples
- 1 cup seedless grape halves
- 1 cup KRAFT Miniature Marshmallows
- $\frac{1}{2}$  cup peanuts
- KRAFT Real Mayonnaise

Combine fruit, marshmallows, nuts and enough mayonnaise to moisten; mix lightly. Chill. Add additional mayonnaise and garnish with apple slices before serving, if desired.  
4 to 6 servings



#### BLT POCKET SANDWICHES

- 2 pita bread rounds, cut in half
- KRAFT Real Mayonnaise
- Lettuce
- 4 KRAFT American Singles Pasteurized Process Cheese Food
- 8 crisply cooked bacon slices
- 8 tomato slices

Spread insides of bread with mayonnaise; fill with remaining ingredients. Top with additional mayonnaise, if desired.  
4 servings

**Continued on Page 82**



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#### CONEY ISLAND POTATO SALAD

- |   |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 6 cups chopped cooked potatoes                                    | 1/2 cup celery slices          |
| 4 ozs. KRAFT Longhorn Style Natural Colby Cheese, cut into strips | 1/2 cup KRAFT Real Mayonnaise  |
| 1/2 lb. frankfurters, cut into 1-inch pieces                      | 1/2 cup pickle slices          |
| 1/2 cup chopped onion   | 2 tablespoons chopped pimiento |
|   | 1/2 teaspoon salt              |
|   | 1/2 teaspoon pepper            |

Combine ingredients; mix lightly. Chill. Add additional mayonnaise and garnish with celery leaves before serving, if desired.  
4 to 6 servings





**Ginger Bread:** Sift together  $2\frac{3}{4}$  c. flour,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  tsp. ginger, 1 tsp. each salt and baking soda and  $\frac{1}{4}$  tsp. each cinnamon, nutmeg and ground cloves. Set aside. Combine 1 c. light molasses,  $\frac{1}{2}$  c. light brown sugar (firmly packed) and  $\frac{1}{2}$  c. butter in a saucepan and simmer, stirring 2 to 3 times. Cool. When lukewarm, stir molasses mixture and  $\frac{3}{4}$  c. buttermilk into dry ingredients. Add  $\frac{1}{4}$  c. orange juice or brandy and 2 beaten eggs, stirring until smooth. Pour into greased  $13\times9\times2$ -in. pan and bake at  $350^\circ$  for 30 min.

**Chocolate Brown Sugar Brownies:** Sift  $1\frac{1}{2}$  c. flour with 1 tsp. baking powder and  $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp. salt. In a large bowl, beat 1 c. firmly packed light brown sugar,  $\frac{1}{2}$  c. soft butter, 1 egg and 1 tsp. vanilla until smooth. Sift flour mixture and  $\frac{1}{2}$  c. chopped nuts, then stir into butter mixture. Stir in 6 oz. semisweet chocolate bits. Bake in lightly greased  $9\times9\times2$ -in. pan in preheated  $350^\circ$  oven.

**Streusel Coffeecake:** Sprinkle 1 pkg. dry yeast into 2 tbs. very warm water. Let stand few min.; stir to dissolve. Sift  $2\frac{1}{2}$  c. flour,  $\frac{1}{4}$  c. sugar and 1 tsp. salt into bowl. Cut in  $\frac{1}{2}$  c. butter. Add yeast, 3 eggs,  $\frac{1}{2}$  c. sour cream and 1 tsp. vanilla. Beat well for 3 min. Let rise 30 min. Beat for two min., and chill overnight. Roll into a rectangle  $\frac{1}{4}$ -in. thick. Sprinkle with mixture of  $\frac{1}{2}$  c. sugar and 1 tbs. cinnamon. Roll up to fit into buttered 9-in. tube pan. Sprinkle with mixture of 2 tbs. flour, 2 tbs. butter, 5 tbs. sugar and  $\frac{1}{2}$  tbs. cinnamon. Let rise  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hrs. Bake in preheated  $325^\circ$  oven for 45 min.

**Blueberry Bread:** Sift together 2 c. sifted flour, 2 tsp. baking powder and  $\frac{3}{4}$  tsp. salt. Set aside. Cream until light  $\frac{1}{4}$  c. soft butter,  $\frac{3}{4}$  c. sugar, 1 egg, 2 tsp. lemon juice and 1 tsp. grated lemon peel. Add dry ingredients and  $\frac{1}{2}$  c. milk alternately. Fold in 1- to 2-c. fresh or frozen blueberries. Turn into greased  $9\times5\times3$ -in. loaf pan. Bake at  $375^\circ$  for 45 min.



**Pound Cake:** Sift together  $3\frac{1}{2}$  c. sifted flour, 1 tsp. salt and  $\frac{1}{4}$  tsp. mace. Cream  $1\frac{1}{2}$  c. butter and gradually add 1 lb. confectioner's sugar, beating well. Add 6 eggs, one at a time, and continue beating until very creamy. Combine  $\frac{1}{2}$  c. milk and 2 tsp. vanilla. Add dry ingredients alternately with milk mixture, beginning and ending with dry ingredients. Beat well after each addition. Spoon into 2 greased and floured  $9\times5\times3$ -in. loaf pans. Bake at  $325^\circ$  for 70 min. Cool in pan 10 min., then turn on wire rack to cool.



**Raisin-Nut Bread:** Add  $\frac{1}{2}$  c. shortening to 1 c. boiling water and simmer. Pour over 1 c. each raisins and sugar, stirring until sugar is dissolved. Cool. Meanwhile, sift 2 c. sifted flour,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  tsp. baking powder and  $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp. salt. Add to raisins 2 beaten eggs, 2 tsp. lemon juice and 1 tsp. lemon peel. Add dry ingredients, stirring until just blended. Fold in 1 c. chopped walnuts. Pour into greased and floured  $9\times5\times3$ -in. pan. Bake at  $325^\circ$  for 60 min. Cool in pan on wire rack for 5 min., then transfer cake to rack to cool.

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# COATS: A MIXED BLESSING

When Jack Frost or the winter "hawk" comes whistling around the corner, a warm coat is not only a necessity but a blessing.

And this year, coats are a *mixed* blessing. The greatest "mix" has to do with lengths: some coats cascade all the way to the ankles, some stop at mid-thigh, and then there's the car-coat length which

is slightly below the waist. A further "mix" is found in layering—one coat on top of another, each a different color, the one on top usually sleeveless like a vest.

While there is a return to the more classic style coat (lean with clean lines and a man-tailored cut), a new influence is the wrap kimono coat that's very much like

a man's bath robe, belted or unbelted, and worn with an unconstructed fit.

Fabrics for cloth coats include mohairs, cashmeres, tweeds, bulky knits and soft wools. The furs are of every species ranging from such luxurious skins as sable, fisher, mink and fox to the more comfortably priced ones



such as rabbit, raccoon and shearling. In some cases, the fur has been clipped and sheared into interesting patterns, and the styles include long, wrap cossack coats as well as fitted and flared three-quarter length designs.

Coats are a blessing to any woman's wardrobe, and with all the options available, the choice is up to you.

Be sure to look for these styles, and more, when Ebony Fashion Fair comes to your city.

Photography:  
Georgina Tastruni  
Moneta Sleet, Jr.

**F**ar left:  
The  
ultimate  
layered  
look by Lanvin

features wool tapestry print coat over full-sleeve wool sweater and matching skirt accented with hanging pouch, jewel necklace and embroidered fez. Above: Krizia's oversize tweed trench coat. Upper right: The tiny herringbone-pattern wool coat by Krizia features wide collar, hip wrap belt, felt hat and nubby crocheted stole. Right: Dorothee Bis wool woven blanket coats in vivid colors with knitted sweater dresses, caps, wool leggings.





**A**bove: The shearling coat by Complice teams with slim, above-the-knee leather skirt, ribbed wool sweater and tights. Upper left: John Anthony's buttonless, cashmere coat with matching slacks, Angora sweater and military-style hat. Upper right: Blouson-style suede coat/jacket by Yves Saint Laurent is worn with narrow leather skirt and suede boots. Bottom: Calvin Klein's wool twill military inspired coat is shown over houndstooth pantsuit. The back view shows clean lines of coat typical of Calvin Klein's style.



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**A**bove: Carlo Tivioli designed the just-above-the-knee cross-fox coat. It's truly a blessing to own.

Upper right: Designer Dorothee Bis prefers a flared style for this clipped fox coat.

Bottom: Givenchy's red fox coat is piped in scalloped leather worn over classic wool slacks, silk blouse and leather cummerbund.



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# WOMEN IN COMMAND

**U.S. Marine Corps Capts.** Denice Williams (L) and Gail Jennings are two of the three company commanders at the Woman Recruit Training Command (WRTC) in Parris Island, S.C. They are also two of only seven Black women who hold the rank of captain in the Marine Corps.

## Two Marine Corps captains call the shots at Parris Island

**W**HEN Denice Williams accompanied her husband to a U.S. Marine Corps recruiting station six years ago to take an officer's exam, she originally planned to wait for him until he completed the test. But being the "spontaneous" person that she is, she decided to follow suit. To her surprise, she—like her husband—passed the exam.

That spur-of-the-moment decision resulted in a major career move for the Portsmouth, Va., native, now 30 and divorced. She entered the Marine Corps' Officer Candidates and Basic Schools in Quantico, Va., and today she is Capt. Denice Williams, com-

mander of Headquarters Company at the Woman Recruit Training Command in Parris Island, S.C., and one of the two highest-ranking Black women at WRTC.

The other is Capt. Gail Jennings, 27, commander of "K" Company. Unlike Capt. Williams, Capt. Jennings has always been attracted to the military, and got her first taste of the Marine Corps when she enrolled in its Platoon Leaders Class for college students while she was a junior at the University of Dayton. (She was in Officer Candidates School the same time as Capt. Williams, but entered Basic School at a different time). "I like regimentation, and I like for things to be in an orderly manner," explains Capt. Jennings, who is from Dayton, Ohio.

Capt. Williams is third in command at WRTC, the Marine Corps' sole facility for training enlisted

**As company commanders,** Capts. Jennings and Williams answer directly to Lt. Col. Judybeth Barnett (second from L), commanding officer of WRTC. Major Carol Crooker (third from L) is second in command. Lt. Col. Barnett describes Capts. Jennings and Williams as "outstanding officers."





## WOMEN IN COMMAND Continued

women. She's in charge of the 150 permanent personnel at the command, and in addition, heads a special training division of recruits who have problem areas at the female version of boot camp. "K" Company's Capt. Jennings oversees officers, drill instructors and recruits assigned to her company. She is also WRTC's drug and alcohol control officer, and is responsible for advising personnel of Marine Corps policy in the area and counseling those with drug or alcohol problems.

The women, who arrived at WRTC as first lieutenants, say they couldn't be happier with their current duties. However, they weren't sure that would be the case when

**Being in good physical condition** is an important part of being a Marine, and below, Capt. Jennings works out with a group of recruits during early morning physical training, better known as "P.T." Capt. Jennings has always been the athletic type, and played on the Marine Corps volleyball team for four years.



**During a routine inspection,** Capt. Jennings adjusts a recruit's cap. She usually has about 250 recruits in her company at a time.



**Capt. Williams** drops in on a group of recruits (above) to see how their boot polishing is coming along. At right, she goes over a report with 1st Lt. Patricia Greis and Sgt. Maj. George Olivar. After work, she goes for a bike ride (far right) in her neighborhood in Beaufort, S.C., which is six miles north of Parris Island.



**Capt. Jennings** pays a visit to the "field," where recruits receive instruction in land navigation and night movement.





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**WOMEN IN COMMAND** Continued  
they received their orders to report to Parris Island, 8,000 marshy acres usually thought of as a training ground for male Marines. "It was like, 'who did you tick off that you're going to Parris Island?'" laughs Capt. Jennings. "I don't really know why I had an adverse reaction to being sent down here; it's just that I knew that was the reaction of everyone else who had ever gotten orders down here."

As it turned out, Capt. Jennings and Williams were not sent to Parris Island because they had "ticked" someone off, but because they both had excellent performance records. They've continued to work hard at WRTC. Both arrive at their respective offices between 6 and 7 a.m., and normally leave between 6 and 7 p.m.

Away from the base, the two single women lead rather quiet lives, partly because their jobs are so demanding and partly because the social scene in the Parris Island area isn't the greatest. Capt. Jennings spends much of her free time sprucing up the three-bedroom house she owns in nearby Port Royal, S.C., and to stay in shape—a must for a Marine—she runs and plays racquetball. Capt. Williams, who will be transferred to Okinawa in January, lives in an apartment in neighboring Beaufort, S.C., and likes to travel and bicycle.

Both officers are aware of the Marines' "macho" image. They say they too can be tough when they have to be. Admitted tomboys, Capt. Williams once repaired telephone lines and Capt. Jennings ran track and played volleyball in school—but they add that doesn't mean that they can't be feminine.

They aren't sure if they will become career Marines, but say it's a possibility. And if they do, they already have a goal: to become the Corps' first Black female generals.

The two captains have a talk over lunch at the officers' club with 1st Lt. Ronald Bailey (standing) and Warrant Officer Melvin Tillar. Occasionally, the women have dinner together at Capt. Jennings' Port Royal, S.C., home.







*I feel very Chantilly today*



# THE EBONY ADVISOR

The EBONY Advisor is a question and answer column designed to help our readers with their problems. Answers to all questions are thoroughly researched and, if necessary, checked with competent psychiatrists, medical doctors, sociologists and others expert in the counseling of families and

individuals. If you have questions, please send them to The EBONY Advisor, EBONY Magazine, 820 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60605. Only the initials and cities of those submitting questions will be published. Because of the volume of mail received, we cannot give personal replies.

**HELP!** *I can't take it anymore! The problem is that my mom is going out with (in my brother's and my opinions) the wrong guy. He sleeps in our apartment which, by the way, has only three rooms, thus putting me out of my mom's bed onto the couch with my brother. This guy has also started to beat my mother.*

*My brother and I have tried to persuade mom to leave the guy, but without success. The question is: Should my brother and I keep trying to make mom see the light before this guy makes her see the stars or should we leave it alone? I am 17 years old. G. S., New York, N.Y.*

You and your brother have a point when you consider a man who physically abuses your mother as "the wrong guy" for her. You two have every right, and should continue, to express your displeasure with being forced to coexist with this dangerous house guest. Unfortunately, your mother's inability or unwillingness to end this unwholesome relationship seems to indicate that she is one of those people who need to see stars before they are able to see the light.

**A** *ROUND two years ago, I met a professional ballplayer and became very interested in him. We've been together only a few times, but we talk over the phone very often. He always seems happy to hear from me, and I'm always writing him. There's only one problem. He's married and has children. He says he wants to see me, but it's hard because I am a college student living at home.*

*I know something could come of our relationship if only some situations were different. Should I continue to see him, hoping something will happen, or should I give up? S. H., New York, N.Y.*

What—pray tell—do you expect to happen? If you are waiting for the ballplayer's wife and children to disappear into thin air in order to make room for you, forget it. A far better idea is to give up.

**I** *m a 14-year-old girl with man trouble. I'm in love with two men ages 23 and 26. One is married and has a child and the other has a girlfriend who also happens to be my girlfriend. One of the men always wants me to skip school and come over and spend the day with him. The other one says he comes to visit me and my mother, but when my mother leaves the room, he is all over me, kissing and hugging me. My mother doesn't know what's going on. I don't want to break up a marriage, nor a very good relationship with my girlfriend. One of my girlfriends told me to stop seeing both of them. Please give me some advice. K. E., Detroit, Mich.*

Listen to your girlfriend before it is too late! The two men with whom you say you are in love are very bad news and have nothing but trouble to offer you. In case you didn't know, they are breaking the law by contributing to the delinquency of a minor—and you are helping them.

**I** *'m the single mother of two sweet little boys. The boys' father and I have been dating for about six years. He sleeps at his mother's house and I sleep at my mother's. Every time I bring up the word "marriage," he changes the subject. He loves the kids very much and I think he loves me, but I can't go on living the way we are living. We both have very good jobs, but we just can't see eye to eye about pulling together and making a home for the four of us, the way it should be.*

*What should I do: wait for him, or do what's best for my two sons and me—in other words, move on? B. W., Dallas, Texas*

Wait for him to do what—grow up? At the rate your boyfriend has been maturing, it seems your boys will be grown before their "father" is. Explain to your boyfriend that you've had it with his immature behavior and that he either stops playing momma's little boy and assumes the responsibility of a head of a family or you and the boys will move on. If he changes the subject again, do what you said you would do.

**I** *WAS wondering if it is possible for a woman who had her tubes taken out to have children. The reason is that my wife, who had children by someone else before we were married, had this tube operation. I still would want us to have children, but now it seems we can't. The doctor says she can't have any more, but I still have hope. Am I wrong to hope?*

Only a medical doctor could say. If you do not trust the judgement of the doctor who told you that your wife's child-bearing days are over, have her see another doctor and get a second opinion.

**F** *OR the last six years I have been gaining weight. At first it didn't seem to bother me very much when someone would make a joke about how large I was. But now it is beginning to really upset me. When I go out with my friends, I'm always the only one without a boyfriend. Men look at me and tell me how much I remind them of their mother or aunt.*

*I will be 30 years old soon and I'm tired of being treated like dear ole mom. I want people—especially men—to look at me in a different way. Can you tell me what I can do to try and put a little joy back into my life before it is too late? O. J. G., San Antonio, Texas*

Before people—especially men—can look at you in a different way, you have to look a different way to them. Let a physician find out the reason for your weight problem and put you on a weight-reduction program. If you stick to the program, and the excess pounds disappear, so will the "jokes" and the "funny" remarks about your resemblance to "dear ole mom."

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*Natalie Cole*



# THE HATCHETTS: LIFE IN A VERY SPECIAL HOUSE

*Michigan family has swimming pool and tennis court inside 24-room home*

**E**LBERT and Laurestine Hatchett had always wanted the kind of house in which they and their three children (Franklin, 21; Ayanna, 10, and Alexis, 4) could do things together as a family all year 'round—things such as swimming and playing tennis, even during the harsh winter months. "But in a northern state such as Michigan, you have to bring most of your activities indoors when the snow starts falling," Mrs. Hatchett says. So the

family did just that. They brought their favorite activities indoors by building a 10,000 sq. ft. addition to their home just to house a tournament-size tennis court and a spectacular, 14-feet-deep pool. The house, which is in Bloomfield Hills, a Detroit suburb, now totals about 14,000 sq. ft., and, with 24 rooms including five baths, is one of the largest—and certainly one of the most unusual—homes in the area.

The pool area soars three stories

high, from the basement to beyond the second-floor bedrooms. Twin waterfalls cascade from a topside Jacuzzi, and there are guest dressing rooms, sauna, TV viewing room, sitting room, poolside bar and playroom with billiard table and pinball machine, a large electronic organ and full set of drums (Mrs. Hatchett was a music major at Florida A & M University, where she met her husband, and he was a drummer with a jazz combo while studying law.) Several hundred guests are often invited for a splash party or a tennis tournament (150 spectators can be seated around the court). Usually the guests include some of Hatchett's clients. He is one of the most successful trial lawyers in the Detroit area and specializes in personal injury and criminal cases. Hatchett is a controversial and flamboyant lawyer (he wears shoulder-length curly hair and fashionable suits) whose firm, Hatchett, DeWalt, Hatchett, Mitchell, Morgan & Hall, in Pontiac, Mich., handles a wide variety of cases—civil rights, job discrimination, criminal charges, and the lucrative personal injury suits. About 80 percent of the firm's clients are White, and Hatchett personally refuses to accept fees from some of his Black clients. "I grew up with many of these people and I know how tough things can be," he explains. "In other cases, I think it's right to donate my time and talent to the community. My wife and I feel the same way about the house. It's there for others to share."



The Hatchett family (l. to r., Laurestine; Ayanna, 10; Elbert and Alexis, 4) stand in the back yard of their 24-room, tri-level home in Bloomfield Hills, a Detroit suburb. The Hatchetts also have a son, Franklin, 21, a senior at Florida A & M University.



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Swimming pool and tennis court are in the 10,000 sq. ft. addition the Hatchetts had built onto the main house. (In the pool are Laurestine, Elbert and Ayanna, as Alexis watches in background.) A terrace and winding stairs connect the cedar-walled pool area with bi-level part of home used for entertaining guests. Balconies leading from the master bedroom and childrens' bedrooms are seen near ceiling. Some 150 guests can be seated on balcony and floor area around tennis court for charity matches the Hatchetts host. There are TV taping facilities, women's and men's dressing rooms and showers, a sauna, and a poolside bar. At left, Attorney Hatchett serves to his wife during a match.

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At their Circle H Ranch in Otter Lake, Mich., the Hatchetts ride three of their eight horses. The ranch house and one of their cars, a Rolls-Royce Silver Wraith, is in the background. At right, they entertain Oakland County Circuit Court Sr. Judge and Mrs. James Thourburn (c.) and Pontiac 50th Dist. Ct. Judge and Mrs.

Christopher C. Brown. Below, Attorney Hatchett is in front of his law office and with some members of the firm—I. to r., Law Clerk Gail Carr, Attys. Cyril C. Hall, Richard H. Morgan and Leland Prince, and Sr. Law Clerk Ronald McDuffie.







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At Howard University College of Nursing, Sharon Robinson performs Leopold's Maneuver on Youvalanda French to determine the position and size of her baby. Below, Sharon is seen as a little girl (2nd from l.) with her famous father, Jackie Robinson, her mother, Rachel, and her brothers, Jack and David.



# ANOTHER ROBINSON PIONEER



In the spirit of her legendary father, Sharon Robinson goes to bat for midwifery

**S**HARON Robinson could be taking on as much of a challenge as did her father, Jackie Robinson, when he broke into professional baseball. While some people were slow in accepting Robinson because of his color, their love for America's greatest pastime speeded the welcome of his skills. But unlike baseball, midwifery—the delivery of babies by laywomen and nurses—isn't as popular as apple pie, and the 32-year-old Ms. Robinson is determined to make improvements in an all-but-vanished field.

While the outlook is bleak for midwives in general, it is even bleaker for Black midwives. That's why Ms. Robinson, a certified nurse who has performed 200 deliveries, is striving to open a midwifery education program at Howard University where she is a nursing instructor. She estimates that about five Black midwives graduate annually from 12

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## ANOTHER ROBINSON Continued

graduate and 14 certified midwifery programs.

"There are persistent drawbacks to becoming a midwife, particularly for Black women," she says. "There are only about 2,500 to 3,000 certified nurse midwives in the country, and I don't expect any great increase in that number. Graduate programs in the field are limited and the cost of these programs can run from \$15,000 to \$20,000. And once you finish a program, there will be severe limitations on where you can practice and how."

On the other hand, Ms. Robinson says, midwives have a better image today than two decades ago. "About 15 years ago, the nurse midwifery movement in this country gained wider attention because consumers began demanding a change in the practice of obstetrics, which had become too technical, too impersonal and too disease-oriented," she says. "Giving birth was no longer a family experience."

"Midwifery is holistic in approach," she continues. "We get involved with a woman's spiritual, emotional and physical well-being. We often become just another member of the family during the pregnancy."

Ms. Robinson doesn't discount the role of the obstetrician — especially in complicated pregnancies — but she stresses that the midwife is allowed more creativity simply because a doctor often doesn't have the time to provide one-on-one care. And even though most nurse midwives work in a hospital under a doctor's supervision, they could perform independently since they are trained to take a woman through all phases of a normal pregnancy, she says.

Many of them practice independently—not too different from the way it was in earlier days when midwives traveled the countryside, serving rural pregnant women. That's what Ms. Robinson wants to do in her spare time. She is working with other professionals to establish mobile health units in rural areas surrounding South Boston and Danville, small towns in Virginia. The project is important, she says, because it would provide a rural clinical experience for midwives, nurses and doctors.

Ms. Robinson says her father's emphasis on courage, integrity and commitment in the midst of struggle has helped her. "These values have been strengthening as I struggle as a progressive Black woman, single parent and nurse midwife," she says.

Her relationship with her mother, she says, is one of "mutual respect for each other's individuality. My mother is a friend and a mentor, and has given me real support in my choice of midwifery as a career."

**Each Morning.** Ms. Robinson takes her three-year-old son Jesse to his class at the Howard University's Preschool Center.



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George Bell, 7-foot-8-inch center for the Harlem Wizards, demonstrates his extraordinary reach over the National Basketball Assn.'s shortest player, 5-foot-8-inch Charlie Criss. Bell can easily drop the ball into the regulation 10-foot-high basketball goal.

# 7'8"

## GEORGE BELL

### World's tallest Black man is Harlem Wizards' biggest attraction

BY HERSCHEL JOHNSON

**Y**OU have to look up to George Bell. He's friendly, sensitive and persistent. He's also 7 feet 8 inches tall.

As a rookie center with the Harlem Wizards basketball team, the 25-year-old Bell is the tallest American player in the history of the game. But due to physical problems, his court statistics have not matched his impressive height.

Bell entered Woodrow Wilson High School in Portsmouth, Va., his hometown, at 6-5; when he graduated he was 7-5½. "I was growing so rapidly that my body couldn't coordinate with my growth," he says.

There were other problems as well. He suffered from a life-threatening tumor on his pituitary gland, sore knees,



"Sky" Bell (at right) of Portsmouth, Va., is the tallest American player in the history of basketball, but physical problems have limited his performance.

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In a game, Bell's extremely wide arm span is his best defensive asset. Below, two of his teammates are holding his size 26 shoes, which are over twice the size of an average man's. Bell is the tallest known Black man in the world. According to the 1982 *Guinness Book of World Records*, the tallest recorded "true" giant (growth not caused by disease) was 7-foot-9 Angus MacAskill of West Isles, Scotland, who died in 1863 at age 38. Bell played basketball at Morris Brown College in Atlanta, the Univ. of California-Riverside and the Bible Institute of Los Angeles before he signed a three-year \$250,000 contract to play with the Harlem Wizards.

## 7'8" GEORGE BELL *Continued*

tendonitis, severe headaches, and weak vision. Except for a ninth-grade stint on the junior varsity team, he didn't play any basketball in high school. "That was probably the roughest part of my life," Bell says of the period, a trace of frustration still in his voice. "I wanted to play but I was unable to play. People expected a lot from me because I was seven feet tall. Between the pressure from my peers and the pressure from the physical problems, I was hurting in two different ways."

While in high school, Bell underwent surgery and other treatments for his physical difficulties. Encouraged by family and friends, he was determined to play basketball.

But in college, Bell again encountered great expectations. And he couldn't get the individual training he felt he needed. He spent two years at Morris Brown College in Atlanta, then a year at the University of California-Riverside. This past season, he attended Biola, the Bible Institute of Los Angeles.

"Biola is a Christian school," says Bell, who was raised as a Baptist, "and people there looked at me as a person first and an athlete second. The coach was the same way. He worked with me for two or three hours a day. The year at Biola was really the only year that I got to play basketball."

Biola ran up a string of 39 consecutive victories this past year before losing the NAIA championship game to the University of South Carolina-Spartanburg. Although he was only the backup center, Bell averaged 12 points and eight rebounds during 15 minutes of playing time a game.

"I showed that I could play when I get help," he says.

Bell wasn't drafted by the National Basketball Assn., but he was signed by Marques Haynes, the legendary ballhandler who is now owner and player-coach of the Wizards, to





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During a visit to his mother's home in Portsmouth, Va., Bell is shown towering over (from left) his mother, Mrs. Earlean Bell; sisters Gwenette, Vivian (holding her daughter, Michelle) and Carol, and brother, Kerry.

## 7'8" GEORGE BELL

*Continued*

a three-year contract worth about \$250,000. He says that his physical problems are largely solved now, and he doesn't foresee much trouble in adjusting to the Wizards' wacky style of play or the team's rigorous schedule. "Marques is over 60 and he's still doing it," he says. "I figure I can't let an old man beat me out."

The oldest of five children, Bell is the only member of his family with extraordinary height. His parents, Earlane and George Sr., who are separated, are both 5-11.

Nicknamed "Sky," Bell has gotten used to making adjustments because of his height. He sleeps "lying from corner to corner on a king-size bed, and still hanging over the edge." Plane reservations require a special seat near an exit door. Of course, all of his clothes, including his size 26 shoes, are custom-made. On the street, adults tend to stare and ask if he's Wilt Chamberlain, and children follow him in wonder. He takes it all in stride. "I like being around people," he says, "and that's the price I have to pay."

Bell, who weighs 285 pounds, lives in New York City and is single. "And I plan to stay that way for a long time," he says with a laugh. "One of the biggest advantages to being very tall is that I get a great response from the ladies."

Eventually, Bell would like to use his college training in therapeutic recreation to aid handicapped children. For now, he concentrates his efforts on basketball, and his ambitions remain simple. "I just want to be the best that I can be," he says. "I want to prove that I can do things people said I couldn't do. Not to get revenge, but just to show that I can do it."

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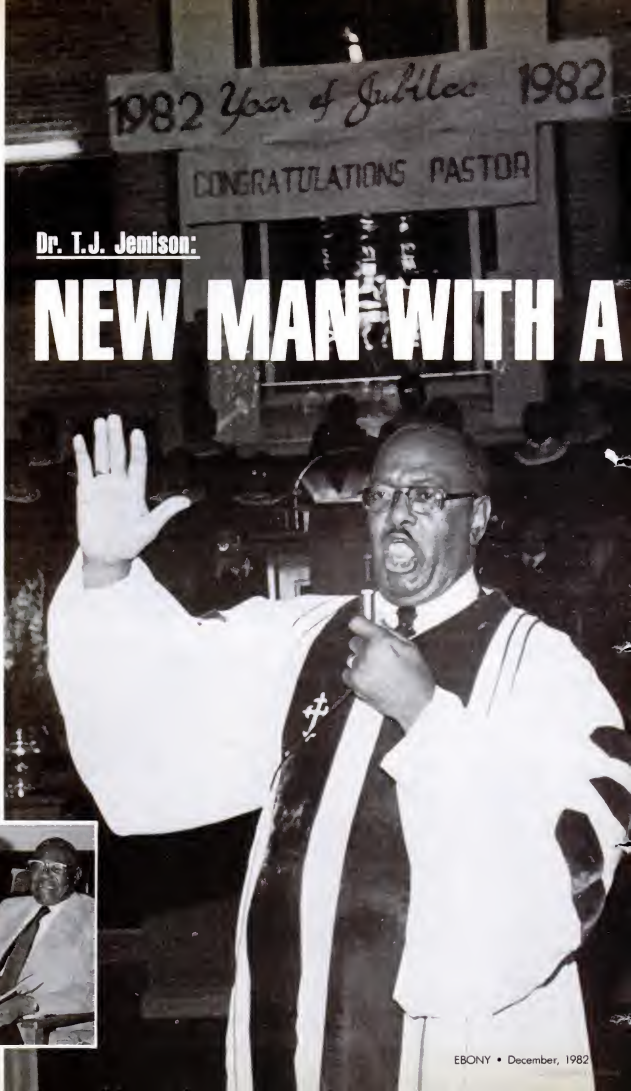
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Dr. T.J. Jemison:

# NEW MAN WITH A

Dr. T.J. Jemison, pastor of Mount Zion First Baptist Church in Baton Rouge, La. (right), was elected president of the National Baptist Convention U.S.A., Inc., in September when delegates voted overwhelmingly to replace Dr. J.H. Jackson, who had been the group's leader since 1953. Dr. Jemison had served for 29 years as the Convention's general secretary. Below, before the election, Dr. Jemison (l.) is shown with Dr. Jackson, pastor of Olivet Baptist Church in Chicago. The 6.8 million-member Convention is the largest Black organization in America.





# The National Baptist Convention U.S.A., Inc. is marching to the beat of a different drummer

**S**EPT. 9, 1982, MIAMI BEACH CONVENTION CENTER—It was shortly before noon and the tension had already begun to mount as the first delegates at the 102nd Annual National Baptist Convention U.S.A., Inc., began casting their ballots for president. The voting moved at a snail's pace and the anticipation swelled, but at exactly 7:31 p.m. the final results were in — Dr. T. J. Jemison 3,697 votes and Dr. J. H. Jackson 1,339 votes.

## NEW PLAN

By Walter Leavy

Most of the crowd, after squeezing onto the convention floor to witness the outcome, stood shoulder-to-shoulder and greeted the announcement with an explosion of cheers and a house-shaking chant of "T.J., T.J., T.J." After 29 years as president of the largest Black organization in the United States, Dr. Jackson, who was believed by many to be unbeatable, had been defeated by the man who had become his protégé while serving as the Convention's general secretary since 1953.

For Dr. Theodore Judson Jemison, pastor of the Mount Zion First Baptist Church in Baton Rouge, La., the victory caused tears of joy to stream down his face for 10 minutes. This was the realization of a lifelong dream that started at age five when he attended his first convention with his father, the late Dr. D.V. Jemison, who was the organization's president from 1941 to 1953. As young Jemison's interests grew, so did the number of people who joined the National Baptist Convention U.S.A. And today, with a membership of 6.8 million, it is *potentially* the most powerful Black group in the country. However, since 1953, the organization has been rocked by controversy and hampered with criticism because its leadership reportedly avoided local and national civil rights struggles. Dr. Jackson, pastor of historic Olivet Baptist Church in Chicago, often explained his opposition to marching, boycotts and similar tactics ("They are disruptive and lead to ill will between the races") and he had a firm belief that "within the Bible, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights are solutions to every problem that we as a people face."

So, despite the Convention's potential clout, it seldom flexed its muscle politically, economically or socially under Dr. Jackson's leadership. That, however, will change immediately, the new president says. "The National Baptist Convention has been silent long enough. It will be silent no more," Jemison, a veteran civil rights worker who was called a "militant integrationist" when he organized Blacks to boycott buses in Baton Rouge during the early '50s. "People can expect this Convention to have a strong voice in all the major areas where Blacks are concerned," he says. "When Blacks are not given their fair share of the economy of America and when Blacks are denied privileges that other Americans enjoy, the National Baptist Convention

EBONY • December, 1982



Upon his triumphant return home, Dr. Jemison and his wife, Mrs. Celestine Jemison (l.), were greeted at the Baton Rouge airport by a cheering crowd that included Louisiana Gov. David C. Treen (above).



During Sunday services, Dr. Jemison is congratulated by Baton Rouge Mayor Pat Screen (c.) and District Atty. Ossie Brown. "Dr. Jemison is a tremendous force for good," says Mayor Screen.



Inside Dr. Jemison's church, there is enough room to seat 800 people. The building, which was remodeled and expanded in 1954 for \$1.5 million, occupies an entire square block and includes a full-size gymnasium.

Continued on Next Page

## NEW MAN *Continued*

will speak loudly and clearly on these issues." And whenever necessary, the Convention's actions will include what Dr. Jemison calls "selective buying" (he prefers not to call it a boycott).

While these plans represent a significant departure from Dr. Jackson's philosophy, the first concrete evidence that the Convention is being steered in a new direction won't take place until January. At that time, Dr. Jemison will kick off a nationwide voter registration drive. The plan calls for pastors belonging to the Convention to accept the responsibility of seeing that all eligible voters in their churches are registered. The idea is to have the organization at full strength when it moves into the political arena and tries to curtail the effects of the nation's conservative swing. "We are not going to be like the Moral Majority and try to force our point of view on any candidate," Dr. Jemison says. "Neither are we going to try to persuade our constituents to vote against a candidate because that candidate does not see our particular point of view. But we are going to be very strong in our efforts to endorse candidates who do see eye-to-eye with us."

Dr. Jemison's interest in politics is only outweighed by his desire to unite Black Baptists and heal the wounds that caused the Convention to split twice since it was organized in 1880 in Montgomery, Ala., by Dr. W. H. McAlpine, grandfather of Mrs. Eunice Johnson, wife of *EBONY* publisher John H. Johnson. The split led to the formation of the National Baptist Convention of America (NBCA) and the Progressive National Baptist Convention (PNBC). There is a strong possibility that the members of the PNBC, who broke away in 1961, will return, Dr. Jemison says. If there is a merger of the two groups, the organization's membership will balloon to 8.3 million, and it could happen as early as September when the Convention meets in Los Angeles.

If anyone can unite Baptists, many believe that Dr. Jemison is the man who can do it. The 62-year-old energetic minister is a humble and charismatic man who is friendlier than a Welcome Wagon representative. He wears a big smile that sometimes turns into a deep laugh; and when it comes to handshaking and backslapping, politicians could take lessons from him. Throughout Baton Rouge, he is known as "the community's preacher" because many needy people have benefitted from his generosity. "Dr. Jemison is not only a pastor and leader of Baptists,"

says Louisiana Gov. David C. Treen, "he's an inspiration to everyone who has had the privilege to know him. He exudes happiness, love and charity."

Praises from state and national leaders and nationwide support from Baptist leaders are among the reasons many say his election was "long overdue." Like most leaders, his road to the top was full of twists and turns. And, he says, had it not been for his father (who instilled leadership qualities in him) and his mother (who shaped his Christian life) he would not have made it. "This has been a long journey, but my parents prepared me for it," he says.

Dr. Jemison was born in Selma, Ala., grew up in Mobile and then left to study at Alabama State, Virginia Union and New York universities. After settling in Stanton, Va., in 1945, he became the first minister to conduct interracial church services in that city. He later organized Stanton's first NAACP chapter and formed the city's first Boy and Girl Scout groups. After he moved to Baton Rouge in 1949, his string of "firsts" continued. In 1956, he was one of the founders (including Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.) of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. He became the organization's first general secretary but resigned in 1958 to devote all his time to the National Baptist Convention. In the following years, Dr. Jemison, who had ideas of vying for the Convention's top spot in the mid-50's, was content to remain loyal to Dr. Jackson "until the time was right."

The time came last July after he won the presidency of the Louisiana Missionary Baptist Convention, replacing Dr. E. Doyle Billoups, who had been president for 33 years. Then it was off to Miami where, ironically, Dr. Jemison's father resigned the presidency, where Dr. Jackson won the presidency, and where Dr. Jemison himself was elected general secretary. At the time he arrived in Miami, Dr. Jemison was very much aware of the fact that, since 1961, Dr. Jackson had been elected by acclamation or suspension of the rules. Not this time. Following a suggestion by Dr. Jemison, the Convention passed a resolution which, for the first time in 21 years, called for the vote to be conducted democratically. When all of the ballots had been counted, Dr. Jemison had won 54 of the 59 state delegations (some states have two delegations) and Dr. Jackson had failed to receive a single vote from eight delegations. "This vote did not mean that the people of this Convention did not love and respect Dr. Jackson, but it does indicate that the people were ready to go in another direction," Dr. Jemison says. "Dr. Jackson had good intentions, and we hope he continues to make himself available to the Convention. While we did not see eye-to-eye on the philosophy of how to help Black people, I recognize him as an astute businessman and one of the best preachers of all time."

After the election, there was a smooth transition of power. And now that Dr. Jemison has seen his dream come true, the Convention already has started marching to the beat of a different drummer. "This is a new day for the National Baptist Convention, and one that Baptists have been waiting for a long time," Dr. Jemison says. "We will be traveling a new road—one that leads to the fulfillment of the American dream for Black people."



In a family photograph, Dr. Jemison and his wife are shown with (clockwise) grandson, Clarence Wagner Jr.; daughter, Diane Frances Jemison; son, Theodore Jemison Jr.; daughter, Mrs. Bettye J. Wagner, and granddaughter, Dionne Celeste Wagner.

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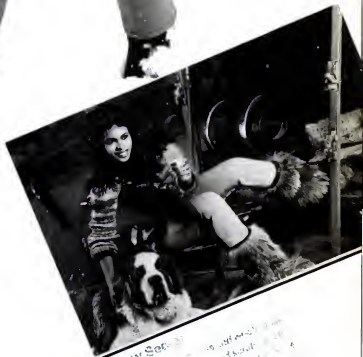
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# What Happens to Stars After the Cheering Stops?

*When their moments of glory fade, many seek other limelights in which to shine*



THEIRS was the kingdom — sports, entertainment, government, the civil rights struggle. Fame came tasting of so many different flavors mounted on a stick of cheers. But like cotton candy, fame often lasts only a short while; it can melt away, leaving a bitter aftertaste. On the following pages is a sampling of how seven well known personalities have learned to live out of the spotlight. Featured are Muhammad Ali, three-time heavyweight boxing champion; Ernie Banks, "Mr. Cub" to baseball fans; Gail Fisher of the *Mannix* television series; Willie Lanier, formerly of the Kansas City Chiefs; Althea Gibson, the first Black tennis champion; the Rev. Ralph David Abernathy, the civil rights leader and associate of the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and E. Frederic Morrow, the first Black man to work in an executive position at the White House. There are few regrets among them. Most have gone on to other meaningful pursuits. A few still bask in the afterglow of their fame, hoping to light the way for others. All have in common the experience of letting go. But echoing cheers can make it difficult. Booker T. Washington once said: "Every individual and every race that has succeeded has had to pay the price which nature demands."

**MUHAMMAD ALI**, only months into retirement, is said to be fighting the most difficult round of his life as he contends with being a 40-year-old ex-champ away from the ring. Life outside the limelight for Ali reportedly has been one full of emotional trauma. He has kept himself busy making public appearances. "Now that I'm out of boxing, everybody wants to know, 'What's he going to do?' Well, I don't intend to be like any of these old beat-up ex-champs, hanging around championship fights, taking bows," Ali told the Washington Post last summer. Instead, Ali said, he will work on lucrative business deals, do some evangelistic work and aid Muslim leader Wallace Muhammad. Ali's fame has become a battered shield. He was perhaps prophetic when he said in 1965, "Fame is no good. I can have no peace." Ali has retired before but has always returned to the roar of the crowds. In recent years Ali's biggest foes have been his age and skeptical press. Speculation has surfaced before about his physical and psychological condition, including suggestions that Ali's slurred speech might be the result of damage suffered in the ring. Always Ali has kept critics at bay with a quick verbal jab. Although he moved to what is described as a "white stucco palace" in Los Angeles, to get away from the crowds, it was reported in the March issue of *EBONY* that he still maintains an open door policy. Ali's explanation: "I'm not only a boxing champion, I'm a people's champion."







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**REV. RALPH DAVID ABERNATHY**, 56, became nationally known when he helped the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., lead the Montgomery, Ala., bus boycott in 1955-56. An important civil rights figure for most of his life, Rev. Abernathy was president of the Southern Christian Leadership

Conference (SCLC) from 1968 to 1977. In 1977, he resigned to unsuccessfully run for Congress. Today, Rev. Abernathy devotes his time to pastoring the West Hunter Street Baptist Church in Atlanta. He also still is active with SCLC, the Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Social Change and other groups. He travels and lectures extensively and has formed the Foundation for Economic Enterprises Development (FEED), a job training program. "I feel that the work I am doing is just as important as the work which I did during those years," Rev. Abernathy says. "I do not believe that any one individual should remain at the helm or under the spotlight. We have many individuals who are able and competent, and I think that the responsibility as well as the glory should be shared by all people." Rev. Abernathy is planning to write a book, a history of the civil rights movement. "Whenever I can see young people today carrying on and being involved within our society, and whenever I can see life that is better today than it was 25 years ago, I'm greatly rewarded," he says.



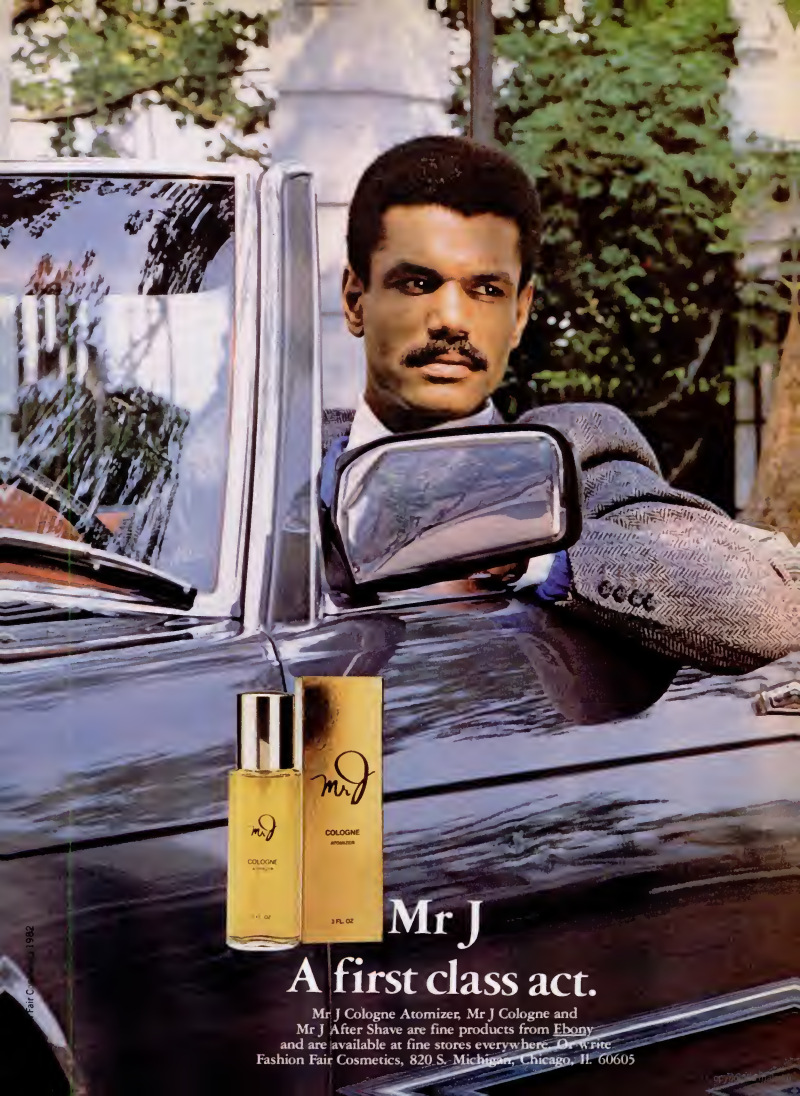
**ERNIE BANKS**, "Mr. Cub" and a member of the Baseball Hall of Fame, stopped playing more than a decade ago. Although Banks is still involved with the Chicago Cubs in corporate sales, he has said he does not miss his playing days. His mood is said to be a positive one. "I enjoyed baseball when I played it, but I enjoy this more," Banks told the Chicago Tribune last year in a

story about his new career in banking. Banks is no longer involved in banking but has added promotional work for a national beer company to his list of career changes since baseball. Last summer, the Cubs honored Banks by retiring his jersey number (14). At the ceremony, Banks thanked his fans for their past cheers. "I can still hear them today," he said.



**GAIL FISHER** played secretary Peggy Fair on CBS' *Mannix* series for seven years. In 1970, she won an Emmy award, but the series ended in 1975 and, almost overnight, Miss Fisher went from the celebrated status of one of the few successful Black television stars to that of just another out-of-work actress. A drug arrest and a movie that fell through in the late 1970s added to her woes.

Today Miss Fisher keeps busy with her two daughters, is writing her autobiography, "and just dealing with life." She also has made some guest appearances on television shows and hopes to do more. "I still have loyal fans. I'm very fortunate in that respect," she says. "I think I was in a very unique position and fortunate, more so than most, with the exposure I had for seven years. You just kind of go with the flow, take the knocks with the boosts and keep your center as much as possible." There is at least one aspect of her former status that Miss Fisher says she misses. "Well, I miss the money. There isn't that much creativity in TV, but there's a lot of money. I would like to be able to do something very creative, stimulating and maybe some theater," she says. She is philosophical about this stage in her life. "Everything has its good things about it and everything has its bad things," she says. "But I think that in any adversity, if you can survive it, you are a stronger person for it. And I do feel that many of the things that have happened are all behind me. It's all better and upward and, well, wonderful."



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**EVERETT FREDERIC MORROW, 72**, became the first Black man to serve in a White House executive position when he was appointed as President Dwight D. Eisenhower's administrative officer for special projects in 1955. In 1964, Morrow became the first Black vice president of the Bank of America in New York City. He retired in 1975. Today he is a financial consultant and travels

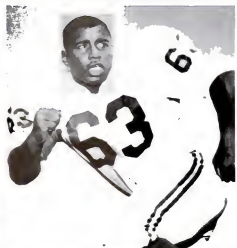
extensively on the college lecture circuit. He has written three books, including his autobiography, "Forty Years A Guinea Pig." Morrow has never forgotten the difficulties he had in adjusting to the changes in his life once he left the limelight. When he left the White House he was without a job. President Eisenhower could not find anyone who would hire Morrow for an executive level job because Morrow was Black. "So I just had to keep on until this opportunity at the Bank of America opened up, and this was really kind of scary," Morrow says. In that position, he had to gain in six months knowledge

others had taken 30 years to acquire. "You almost lose your health making this kind of transition where you've got to make it because maybe this opportunity won't come again to you or anyone," Morrow says. "At this period of my life, I'm very happy about the sacrifices made... I would not change the script of my life because I think the unfair circumstances into which we are born—the hurdles, the oppression—these have been things that have helped me to achieve. Without such adversity," Morrow says, "I wouldn't have been stimulated, and that's the thing that keeps me going now."



**WILLIE LANIER, 36**, spent 11 years as the star middle linebacker for the Kansas City Chiefs. He was selected 1972 National Football League Man of the Year. Today, five years after he retired, Lanier is a stock broker with a prominent Richmond, Va. firm. He sees his adjustment period to life after football as an interesting one.

"The first one or two years, you feel the adrenaline every time fall rolls around and the leaves start to change. When that happens, I was used to running and hitting people... If it was a 100-yard race, I would be about 85 per cent home," Lanier recalls that a knee injury in his junior year of college helped prepare him for one



day stepping out of the limelight successfully. "It made me realize how fragile a potential pro career can be," he says. "Anyone looking at pro sports while in college should look at it as a bonus. Get the degree, for it might be what carries you because of a potential injury." He plans to go on living and working in Richmond.



**ALTHEA GIBSON, 55**, the first Black tennis champion, won both the U.S. and Wimbledon women's championships in 1957 and 1958. She retired from amateur tennis in 1959 and later became a professional golfer. Over the years, she recorded an album, acted in a movie, ran for the New Jersey State Senate, wrote two books, taught physical education and was state athletic commissioner for boxing and wrestling in New Jersey

from 1975 to 1977. She was elected to the Lawn Tennis Hall of Fame and Tennis Museum in 1971. Today, Miss Gibson is manager of the recreation division of the City of East Orange, N.J. "I'm happy that the good Lord has permitted me to be around this long," she says. "But in another sense, I'm not very happy with the way things have developed from that time into this as far as gaining financially as a world tennis champion. But there is nothing I can do about it... As the saying goes, everyone has their day. I suppose I've had mine... But, as you get older, the legs start going. When the legs go, that's it." Miss Gibson says she has learned to "accept life as it is presented to you. This is the way it ended up, so I have to go along with it." She pauses a moment to think what she would do differently if she could live her life over. "If I could do it over again with the same talents that the Lord blessed me with, and at age 20, yes, I believe that I would, and I would do it at this period where the purses are now evident in women's professional sports, either in tennis or golf. I believe with my [former] talent, I could do quite well." She wants to be remembered as a "down to earth, overall nice person."





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## ***Southern Comfort.***

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Michael Jackson, now 24, is at the peak of his long career as a member of The Jacksons (formerly The Jackson Five), actor (*The Wiz*) and solo performer. At left, he sizzles onstage during a concert. Opposite, he is shown with baby tiger that's featured in photo on his new album and with E.T., the extra-terrestrial creature.





# MICHAEL

By Charles L. Sanders

*Superstar of  
The Jacksons  
reaches another  
career milestone  
with narration  
of the E.T. story  
and release of  
new album,  
'Thriller'*

**M**ICHAEL Jackson is flying higher than ever these days. His two new albums—*Thriller* and his narration of the story of the movie creature *E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial*—have been released and, as is usual with any album that has Michael Jackson's name on it, are sure to be chart busters. He's feeling good about the success of Diana Ross' hit single *Muscles*, which he wrote and produced. He's super excited about a movie that he, *E.T.* producer-director Steven Spielberg and musician Quincy Jones are collaborating on, and he and his brothers in The Jacksons are getting together to do another world tour. Michael turned 24 in August. He says he has finally taken charge of his life and career ("I pay people and I tell them what to do"). There's a

*Continued on Next Page*

**MICHAEL**



*Michael in repose at home in suburban Los Angeles...*



*...and with pet llama on lawn of home now being remodeled.*

new lady he likes a lot, and he's as happy as he has ever been.

Happy except for one thing. "Ever since I was a little boy I've dreamed about being able to fly, and I still dream about it all the time," he explains. He's not talking about flying high in the young-rich-superstar sense. He'd like to just go into the yard of his California home, say or do something magical, and take off, soaring out over the San Fernando Valley. He knows he'll never be able to do it, which is one of the reasons he said a quick "Yes" when Spielberg mentioned the E.T. album project, he says, explaining: "When I was doing that recording I really felt that I was E.T., and it was because his



*...listening to playback of latest album.*

story is the story of my life in many ways."

*Michael Jackson and E.T. alike?*

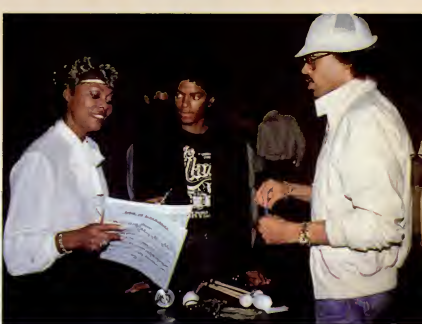
"Well, look at his story," Michael says. "He's in a strange place and wants to be accepted—which is a situation that I've found myself in many times when traveling from city to city all over the world. He's most comfortable with children, and I have a great love for kids. He gives love and wants love in return, which is me. And he has that super power which lets him lift off and fly whenever he wants to get away from things on Earth, and I can identify with that. He and I are alike in many ways."

Michael explains the album. "It's a special package with a beautiful storybook so that people can read along as I narrate the story. There are sound ef-





*Michael with friends Donna Summer...*



*...singers Dionne Warwick and Lionel Richie...*



*...actor Sidney Poitier...*



*...songwriting partner Paul McCartney...*



*...singers Mike Seals and Dash Crofts, and actor John Travolta...*



*...Walt Disney character "Goofy."*



Michael with E.T. producer-director Steven Spielberg and Quincy Jones.



...with Caroline and John Kennedy Jr., children of the late President.



...with Diana Ross at the 1981 American Music Awards in Los Angeles.



...with actress Tatum O'Neal with whom he was romantically linked...

fects from the movie, and you can hear the voice of E.T. in the background. I sing a special song that was written for the album, and Quincy Jones is doing the music. It's being released all over the world, and Spielberg is using some special marketing techniques that should make it an all-time biggest storybook album."

*What about Thriller?*

"Of course it's a follow-up to *Off the Wall* [Michael's hugely successful solo album which has sold 7 million copies and had five hit singles, the most by any solo performer in history], and it's also produced by Quincy Jones," Michael says. "What's different about it is that we came up with some fast, catchy tunes and modern, futuristic sounds, and I think we'll have at least seven hit singles off this one."

**A**S Michael talks there is the sound of construction equipment and workmen in every area of the Jackson family home. Michael is having the house renovated and enlarged, and although he won't say how much it's costing ("I think it's boring to talk about how much *anything* costs"), there are reports that the figure is "over \$1 million." Michael says he wants a "real nice place for my mother, because we're very, very close, you know" and "I want it to be real nice because this is where I plan to spend most of my time until I get married and move to Switzerland."

*Married? When?*

"I'm not saying, but it'll be sooner or later, and I definitely plan to do it."

Michael and actress Tatum O'Neal



...with model-actress Brooke Shields with whom he talks "a lot on the phone."



*A partridge in a pear tree*



*Two turtle doves*



*Three French hens*



*Four calling birds*



*Five gold rings*



*Six geese a-laying*



*Seven swans a-swimming*



*Eight maids a-milking*



*Nine ladies dancing*



*Ten lords a-leaping*



*Eleven pipers piping*

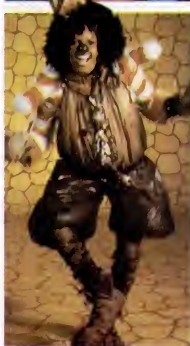


*Twelve drummers drumming*

**What people gave before there was Chivas Regal.**

12 YEARS OLD WORLDWIDE • BLENDED SCOTCH WHISKY • 86 PROOF • © 1982 GENERAL WINE & SPIRITS CO., NEW YORK, N.Y.

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Michael and his brothers are shown (far left) in 1969 photo. Clockwise from top, Marlon; Michael; their cousin Johnny Jackson, who was a drummer with the group; Tito; Jackie and Jermaine. Above, in an album photo are (l. to r.) Michael, Marlon, Jackie, Tito and Randy (Jermaine left the group in 1976). In middle photo (far left), the boys are with Diana Ross, who took them to Motown Records where their professional career began 13 years ago.

...Michael as "The Scarecrow" in movie, *The Wiz*. Below, he performs with The Jacksons during 1981 tour, one of the most successful in the history of the popular group.

were a "hot" item in gossip columns for several years, so the question, Will Tatum O'Neal be the lucky girl?

"I'm not saying. But I will say that Tatum and I had a really serious relationship. We both are so busy that things have cooled off, but we're still real good friends."

Have you had very much experience with women?

"No, just Tatum."

What about sex?

"I believe you should be married before getting into any heavy stuff."

Anybody you're serious about now?

"Well, Brooke Shields and I talk a lot on the phone—an awful lot."

So are you going with her?

"Just say we talk a lot."

Any Black ladies in your life?

"Sure, but you wouldn't take me seriously."

Try me.

"It's Diana Ross. I love her."

Do you mean as a "big sister?"

"No, that's not what I mean. See, I told you that you wouldn't take me seriously."

You're not saying you'd like to marry Diana Ross, are you?

"Oh yeah, I'm saying that."

But she's so much older than you. You mean you feel something other than close friendship for her?

"Uh huh. And what does age have to do with it? Look at it this way: how old would you be if you didn't even know



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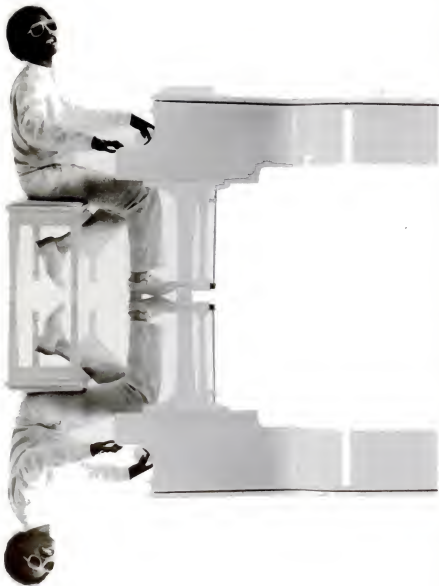
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### MICHAEL *Continued* how old you are?"

**A**LTHOUGH he's the one who's reportedly picking up the tab for renovation of the family home, Michael doesn't bother with such details as going over blueprints or giving instructions to the workers. He seems far more concerned about whether a caretaker has fed his pets—a llama, two fawns, a ram and an exotic bird he keeps on the grounds of the estate. "Attending to details of things that have nothing to do with my career really bores me," he says. "If creative things are involved, then I'm interested and I take full responsibility. I'm in charge of everything."

Michael planned the spectacular show (including a magic act) presented by The Jacksons during their last tour, and he says, "I'm working on something even better for next year." He says he could write a best-selling book about some of the things that happen on tours—"Especially the way the fans chase after us," he says with a laugh. "They come after us every way they can, and the guys are just as bad as the girls. Guys jump up on the stage and usually go for me or for Randy."

*But that means nothing except that they admire you, doesn't it?*

"What about when they hide up under your bed in some of the hotels? Our security people find them and drag them out."

Michael says he's grateful for the adulation from fans, but hopes it isn't because of a sexual attraction "or anything like that, because we never try to deliberately project sex onstage. If it happens, O.K., but I would rather have young people love us for a more positive reason. I'd rather that they see us as some young Black kids who took their talent and used it and made a success of themselves."

Michael is reportedly one of today's wealthiest young entertainers, but he says that only he and his accountants and the IRS know what he's worth. "It's something that I just don't talk about," he says. "All I'll say is that I'm very, very wealthy and could retire today."

He's also one of the most popular, best-liked entertainers in Hollywood although he says he has "only about three really close friends." He refuses to name them because "the people I don't name would be upset."

On these pages are photos of Michael and some of his friends, and photos from various periods in the life of the young superstar.

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FORD DIVISION

# Chronicles of Black Courage

## Part II

*Mary McLeod Bethune started college with "\$1.50 and faith"*

*By Lerone Bennett Jr.*

COURAGE comes in different packages and speaks different languages.

*Be a Daniel. Take the vow of courage.*

—Mary McLeod Bethune

There is a courage called defiance, and there is a courage called perseverance.

There is a courage that shouts and a courage that whispers.

And although courage is generally identified with tumults and trumpets, it speaks loudest perhaps in small

National monument, dedicated by National Council of Negro Women, celebrates legacy of courage and hope of educator Mary McLeod Bethune, the founder of Bethune-Cookman College.



MARY McLEOD BETHUNE  
1875 1955

DEDICATED

acts performed far from the applauding crowd—in the face of doubt, ridicule and disparagement—by a great spirit who refuses to give in or give up.

Such was the spirit of the young Mary McLeod Bethune, who was saved for immortality by the courage of the cotton field and the garbage dump. We know her best at the zenith of her career, when she advised presidents and shaped the vision of a whole generation of Black youths. But there can be no understanding of her character as it has passed into history without some understanding of the indomitable tenacity of spirit of the young woman who dreamed herself out of the cotton field and created a great institution on a noxious dumping ground called "Hell's Hole."

In the course of a long and exemplary career, the great educator became a living legend and was listed among the

fifty greatest women produced in America. But she maintained until the end that the road to the heights leads through a thicket of ordinary, even menial, tasks. "There is no menial work," she said once, "only menial spirits." The words she repeated on a thousand platforms became famous:

"Cease to be a drudge, seek to be an artist."

She was an artist, even in the cotton field. The daughter of former slaves and the sister of former slaves, born on July 10, 1875, near Mayesville, S.C., she was sent to the field at an early age and could pick 250 pounds of cotton by the time she was nine. But nothing—neither cotton nor drudgery nor Jim Crow—dampened the spirit of young Mary Jane, who transcended her environment by refusing to be limited by the limits of her environment. Always,



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Founder was center of attention as she walked across campus of Bethune-Cookman College, which she started in Daytona Beach.

## Black Courage *Continued*

everywhere, even in the cotton field, she dreamed dreams. She dreamed of books and light and a world where Black virtue and beauty would not be crushed by bales of whiteness.

"I knew then," she said later, "as I stood in the cotton field helping with the farm work that I was called to a task which I could not name or explain."

She knew it, but the Jim Crow laws of South Carolina did not know it. Unbelievable as it may seem in this age, when it is fashionable to decry the *quality* of Black schools, there were no schools for Blacks in Mayesville. Young Mary Jane was eleven when the Presbyterians opened a one-room mission school. She walked five miles a day to this school and completed the limited curriculum. She then returned to the cotton field, for there were no public high schools for Blacks in her area.

A lesser spirit would have been crushed by this setback, but in her case, as in so many other cases in Black history, defeat was a prelude, perhaps a necessary prelude, to victory. A White woman donated a scholarship for a Black student "who will make good." The local teacher remembered the light in the eyes of Mary McLeod, who went on to Scotia Seminary in North Carolina and Moody Bible Institute in Chicago. It was her intention then to go on to Africa as a missionary, but the eagerly awaited invitation never came, probably because of her race. Undaunted, the young woman returned to the South. She said later that she had wanted to go to Africa but that the Africa God called her to was named Florida.

In the years that followed, Mary McLeod taught school, married Albertus Bethune and gave birth to a son, Albert McLeod Bethune. Never for a moment, however, did she give up the great dream of her life—a school for Black girls. "I'd been dreaming," she said, "all my life, down yonder in the cotton fields, in the classroom, singing in the Chicago slums, dreaming, dreaming, of big buildings and little children—my *own* institution. But where to put it?"

An answer came in 1904 when friends told her that there was a fertile missionary field in Daytona Beach, Florida,

which was the focal point of a railroad construction project. Without a moment's hesitation, she caught a train for Daytona Beach and started her life's work. With capital of \$1.50, raised by selling sandwiches and cakes to railroad construction workers, she rented a cottage and enrolled a handful of students. On October 4, 1904, the Daytona Literary and Industrial School for Training Negro Girls opened with five students.

Looking back later, Mrs. Bethune said:

"We burned logs and used the charred splinters as pencils. For ink we mashed up elderberries. Strangers gave us a broom, a lamp, some cretonne to drape around the ugly packing-case which served as my first desk. Day after day, I went to the city dump and visited trash piles behind hotels, looking for discarded linen and kitchenware, cracked dishes and shattered chairs. I became adept at begging for bits of old lumber, bricks, and even cement. Salvaging, reconstructing, and making bricks without straw, were all part of our training."

To the surprise of doubters and detractors, the school prospered, and Mrs. Bethune looked around for an area of expansion. The only available spot was the city dump, an unsavory place called "Hell's Hole." The asking price was \$250. By selling ice cream and pies to workers, Mrs. Bethune raised \$5.00 and talked the owner into taking the balance over a two-year period.

With the help of students, parents and supportive Blacks, she cleared the dump and embarked on a frenzy of fund-raising. She sold sweet potato pies and fried fish. She sang at fashionable hotels, and she stood on street corners and begged.

People laughed at her. They called her a heggar and a dreamer. Undismayed by the ridicule and laughter, Mary McLeod Bethune went her way, and Blacks and Whites gathered under her banner. One day, so the story goes, a potential benefactor entered her office, which was furnished with crates and broken-down chairs.

"Where," asked the White philanthropist, "is this school you want me to be a trustee of?"

"In my mind," she answered, "and my soul."

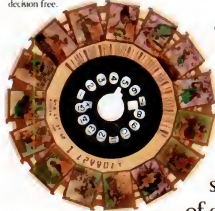
With the help of powerful philanthropists, including James M. Gamble of Procter and Gamble, the institute grew into a secondary school and later, after a merger with Cookman Institute for Men, into a four-year college. When, in 1947, Mrs. Bethune relinquished the presidency, the institution was mortgage free and had a faculty of 100 and a student enrollment of more than 1,000.

By this time, Mrs. Bethune was a national presence who defied the Klan and walked the Southland with the regal grace of the African rulers, from whom she said her mother descended. In later years she stumped the country against the poll tax, denounced lynching, and campaigned for wider social security coverage and a fair employment practices bill. She became a close friend of President Franklin D. Roosevelt and his wife, Eleanor Roosevelt. In 1935, she organized the National Council of Negro Women. In 1936 she was named director of the Negro Affairs Division of the National Youth Administration.

The great educator remained active until the end. When she died on May 17, 1955, after a full day of work at her desk, she was buried at her own request, on the college campus beneath the soil of the garbage dump she had transformed into a flower garden. Her "Last Will and Testament," one of the great documents of our history, was written exclusively for EBONY magazine shortly before her death. In it, she said:\*

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Photography from Kodak.

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\* Copyright, August 1955, EBONY magazine.

• *I leave you love.* Love builds. It is positive and helpful. It is more beneficial than hate. Injuries quickly forgotten quickly pass away. Personally and racially, our enemies must be forgiven. Our aim must be to create a world of fellowship and justice where no man's skin, color or religion, is held against him. "Love thy neighbor" is a precept which could transform the world if it were universally practiced. It connotes all human relations. Loving your neighbor means being interracial, interreligious and international.

• *I leave you hope.* The Negro's growth will be great in the years to come. Yesterday, our ancestors endured the degradation of slavery, yet they retained their dignity. Today, we direct our economic and political strength toward winning a more abundant and secure life. Tomorrow, a new Negro, unhindered by race taboos and shackles, will benefit from more than 330 years of ceaseless striving and struggle. There will be a better world. This I believe with all my heart.

• *I leave you the challenge of developing confidence in one another.* As long as Negroes are hemmed into racial blocs by prejudice and pressure, it will be necessary for them to band together for economic betterment. Negro banks, insurance companies and other businesses are examples of successful, racial economic enterprises. These institutions were made possible by vision and mutual aid. Confidence was vital in getting them started and keeping them going. Negroes have got to demonstrate still more confidence in each other in business. This kind of confidence will aid the economic rise of the race by bringing together the pennies and dollars of our people and ploughing them into useful channels. Economic separatism cannot be tolerated in this enlightened age, and it is not practicable. We must spread out as far and as fast as we can, but we must also help each other as we go.

• *I leave you a thirst for education.* Knowledge is the prime need of the hour. More and more, Negroes are taking full advantage of hard-won opportunities for learning, and the educational level of the Negro population is at its highest point in history. We are making greater use of the privileges inherent in living in a democracy. If we continue in this trend, we will be able to rear increasing numbers of strong, purposeful men and women, equipped with vision, mental clarity, health and education.

• *I leave you a respect for the uses of power.* We live in a world which respects power above all things. Power, intelligently directed, can lead to more freedom. Unwisely directed, it can be a dreadful, destructive force. During my lifetime I have seen the power of the Negro grow enormously. It has always been my first concern that this power should be placed on the side of human justice.

Now that the barriers are crumbling everywhere, the Negro in America must be ever vigilant lest his forces be marshalled behind wrong causes and undemocratic movements. He must not lend his support to any group that seeks to subvert democracy. That is why we must select leaders who are wise, courageous, and of great moral stature and ability. We have great leaders among us today. . . . We have had other great men and women in the past: Frederick Douglass, Booker T. Washington, Harriet Tubman, Sojourner Truth, Mary Church Terrell. We must produce more qualified people like them, who will work not for themselves, but for others.

• *I leave you faith.* Faith is the first factor in a life devoted to service. Without faith, nothing is possible. With it, nothing is impossible. Faith in God is the greatest power, but great, too, is faith in oneself. In 50 years the faith of the American Negro in himself has grown immensely and is still increasing. The measure of our progress as a race is in precise relation to the depth of the faith in our people held by our leaders. Frederick Douglass, genius though he was, was spurred by a deep conviction that his people would heed his counsel and follow him to freedom. Our greatest Negro figures have been imbued with faith. Our forefathers struggled for liberty in conditions far more onerous than those we now face, but they never lost the faith. Their perseverance paid rich dividends. We must never forget their sufferings and their sacrifices, for they were the foundations of the progress of our people.

• *I leave you racial dignity.* I want Negroes to maintain their human dignity at all costs. We, as Negroes, must recognize that we are the custodians as well as the heirs of a great civilization. We have given something to the world as a race and for this we are proud and fully conscious of our place in the total picture of mankind's development. We must learn also to share and mix with all men. We must make an effort to be less race conscious and more conscious of individual and human values. I have never been sensitive about my complexion. My color has never destroyed my self respect nor has it ever caused me to conduct myself in such a manner as to merit the disrespect of any person. I have not let my color handicap me. Despite many crushing burdens and handicaps, I have risen from the cotton fields of South Carolina to found a college, administer it during its years of growth, become a public servant in the government of our country and a leader of women. I would not exchange my color for all the wealth in the world, for had I been born White I might not have been able to do all that I have done. . . .

• *I leave you a desire to live harmoniously with your fellow men.* The problem of color is world-wide. It is found in Africa and Asia, Europe and South



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# LOU GOSSETT JR.

## The Agony and Ecstasy of Success

By Lynn Norment



### Actor 'swallowed many bitter pills' during his 29-year career

**L**OUIS Gossett Jr. is relaxing in the hot tub on the sun deck of his Malibu, Calif., home, joking about his bad knee. When he's home, he usually gets into the tub twice a day, especially when his legs are troubling him. This time he's been hobbling about his modest three-bedroom bungalow for a week following knee injury. "There always seems to be something wrong with my legs," he laments. "Charley horses, cramps, pulled muscles, hamstrings."

Immersed in the bubbling water with only his glistening bald head visible, Gossett spreads his lean 6'4", 180-pound frame out across the tub. As usual, he's in a pleasant, jovial mood, and he has good reason to be. Around Hollywood, the word is that Gossett, 45, is certain to get a "Best Supporting Actor" Oscar nomination for his role in *An*

*Officer And A Gentleman*, the country's No. 2 box office hit of the year (*E.T.* is No. 1).

"Yes, I'm very excited about the Oscar, but I don't do things for awards," he says with modesty while sipping fruit juice. "I just try to do the best I can."

Doing his "best," Gossett emerged as the "star" of the movie, even though actor Richard Gere got top billing. However, Gossett's superb portrayal of the tough yet caring drill instructor Sgt. Foley all but stole the show. He says it was his second best role, closely trailing his Emmy Award-winning portrayal of "Fiddler" in *Roots*.

"I had hoped it would be well received," he says of *An Officer And A Gentleman*. And though he felt it was a good movie, he thought it might not be popular because it lacked



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During time off before filming a new *Jaws* movie in Orlando, Fla., Gossett dictates a letter to his secretary, Carol Nettles, and then romps around the backyard of his Malibu home with his son, Satie, 8, whom he calls the "center of my life" and who has been in his custody since age 3.

## LOU GOSSETT JR. *continued*

science fiction and special effects.

That's just what television viewers get in abundance with NBC's new series, *The Powers Of Matthew Star*, in which Gossett co-stars. Even though he's pleased with his role as a "father figure and character builder," he was frustrated with the network because at first he was not mentioned in any of the ads. Despite such "bitter pills," during the last two decades, Gossett has consistently managed to get good roles in television and in films while many of his colleagues are unemployed. He played Satchel Paige in the TV movie *Don't Look Back* and co-starred with Cicely Tyson in *Benny's Place*. He recently completed filming a new *Jaws* movie and was guest host on *Saturday Night Live*.

With an Oscar nomination on the horizon, Gossett appears to be at the pinnacle of his career. Ironically, last March his bubble almost burst when police raided his Malibu home, supposedly responding to a never-proved allegation that he and his former girlfriend, Honey Rufner, were giving cocaine to his son, Satie, 8, and Ms. Rufner's two children. After police went through dozens of boxes (he had just moved into the house), he and Ms. Rufner were arrested and charged with possession of a small quantity of marijuana and cocaine. They were not charged with giving cocaine to the children.

"It made me angry; I was outraged! I was upset," Gossett says, his face tense as he reflects on the incident. "I thought it was all over, that I was one of those martyrs." Joining Gossett in his outrage were several prominent Black leaders and thousands of fans who felt the actor had been set up.

"It was a great test of my character, my patience, my willpower, my strength and my love for him," he says, gesturing toward Satie, who is playing nearby. "But I got through it and I'm happier, stronger and more positive than before. I think agony and ecstasy are two necessary evils in my life, and the more dramatic and famous you get, those agonies and ecstasies become extreme. It's like a seesaw; you can't have the ups without the downs."

Gossett has had plenty of both since he first began acting while a student at Abraham Lincoln High School in Brooklyn. When a leg injury forced him to sit out a basketball season, he decided to check out the student theater program and so impressed the drama teacher that he was recommended—and beat out more than 400 competitors—for the lead in the 1953 Broadway production of *Take A Giant Step*. He was only 16.



During the next decade, a young and talented Louis Gossett acted in dozens of plays and TV shows before he moved to the West Coast. Admitting that there have been roles of which he is not so proud, he says that in recent years he has been more selective with the characters he portrays because he wants to have a positive impact on youngsters. He adds that he has been able to survive because of his sense of humor and his positive attitude. What he's too modest to mention are his talent, sharp mind and aggressiveness, all of which have combined to propel him to success. Gossett appears pensive, somewhat bitter when he talks about racism and the unemployment of Black actors and actresses. He emphasizes that even though he is working, "it is not a bed of roses." For example, he says he almost quit the business several times to pursue a teaching career. The last time was when he couldn't find a job after winning an Emmy for *Roots*. "I figured *Roots* would be it—my career would be set, that I could write my own ticket," he says. "But unemployment dropped lower than it had for Blacks in Hollywood in ten years."

Gossett made a big comeback in his own television series, *The Lazarus Syndrome*. Though it was short-lived, his role as a doctor emphasized his conviction that Blacks must start competing for roles that are not considered "Black." That is how he has gotten many of his jobs, including Foley in *An Officer And A Gentleman*, which originally was slated for a White actor. When Gossett expressed interest in the part, the director decided he was perfect and not a single line in the script was changed.

Even though he has been divorced twice, Gossett places great importance on family. Rearing his son, who has been in his custody for five years, alone is not easy, he says, especially since he travels frequently. While walking about his four acres of property, which has a jogging path, a cacti garden, a fish pond, a fruit-bearing pear tree and a full-size teepee for Satie, Gossett talks about growing up in Brooklyn as an only child "with millions of cousins." His mother ("The greatest influence on my life") was a maid and his father was a porter; and his great-great grandmother, who he says was at least 116 when she died, had no qualms about using the switch. He says his family "was just as poor as





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In critically acclaimed role of Sgt. Foley in *An Officer And A Gentleman*, Gossett all but stole the show from the star Richard Gere.

## LOU GOSSETT JR. *continued*

everybody else, but we always had enough food to eat and our clothes were ragged but clean."

Gossett has a down-to-earth sensuality about him, and he partly attributes his "heart-throb" appeal to his bald head. He says he started losing his hair at age 19, and, naturally was concerned whether that would limit his acting roles. However, when he shaved his head to get a part in the Broadway play *The River Niger*, he got a boost to his career and his sex appeal.

Though not romantically involved right now, Gossett is hopeful ("But I'm not really looking") that he will find the right woman to complement his lifestyle. "She must not be intimidated by all the attention I get because she must never forget that she is the center of it." He says that any woman in his life must not feel competitive with Satie.

Gossett is enjoying extraordinary success, but he's not complacent. He's optimistic about getting Arab backing for a movie about Hannibal and he is working on a photo book featuring Black women ("I've dated every type of woman in the world, but sisters will always be No. 1 in my heart," he says). He also plans to put together a one-man television special to showcase his musical talents. His "ace in the hole" is the possibility of a TV series, *Sgt. Foley, USMC*.

Full of optimism and energy, Louis Gossett Jr., who goes scuba diving every chance he gets, is gearing up for the second half of his career. Despite the disappointments, he's not giving up. "I'll die doing this," he says of acting. "This is what I was put on this earth to do. This is how I teach."

A teen-age Gossett listens to advice from his great-great grandmother, Mrs. Bertha Wray (shown here at age 106) who, he says, greatly influenced his life and "never hesitated to use the switch." She died at age 116.



## Black Courage *Continued*

America. I appeal to American Negroes — North, South, East and West—to recognize their common problems and unite to solve them.

I pray that we will learn to live harmoniously with the White race. So often, our difficulties have made us hyper-sensitive and truculent. I want to see my people conduct themselves naturally in all relationships — fully conscious of their manly responsibilities and deeply aware of their heritage. I want them to learn to understand Whites and influence them for good, for it is advisable and sensible for us to do so. We are a minority . . . living side by side with a White majority. We must learn to deal with these people positively and on an individual basis.

• *I leave you finally a responsibility to our young people.* The world around us really belongs to youth for youth will take over its future management. Our children must never lose their zeal for building a better world. They must not be discouraged from aspiring toward greatness, for they are to be the leaders of tomorrow. Nor must they forget that the masses of our people are still underprivileged, ill-housed, impoverished and victimized by discrimination. We have a powerful potential in our youth, and we must have the courage to change old ideas and practices so that we may direct the power toward good ends.

Faith, courage, brotherhood, dignity, ambition, responsibility—these are needed to day as never before. We must cultivate them and use them as tools for our task of completing the establishment of equality for the Negro. We must sharpen these tools in the struggle that faces us and find new ways of using them. The Freedom Gates are half ajar. We must pry them fully open.

If I have a legacy to leave my people, it is my philosophy of living and serving. . . . I pray now that my philosophy may be helpful to those who share my vision of a world of Peace, Progress, Brotherhood and Love.



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